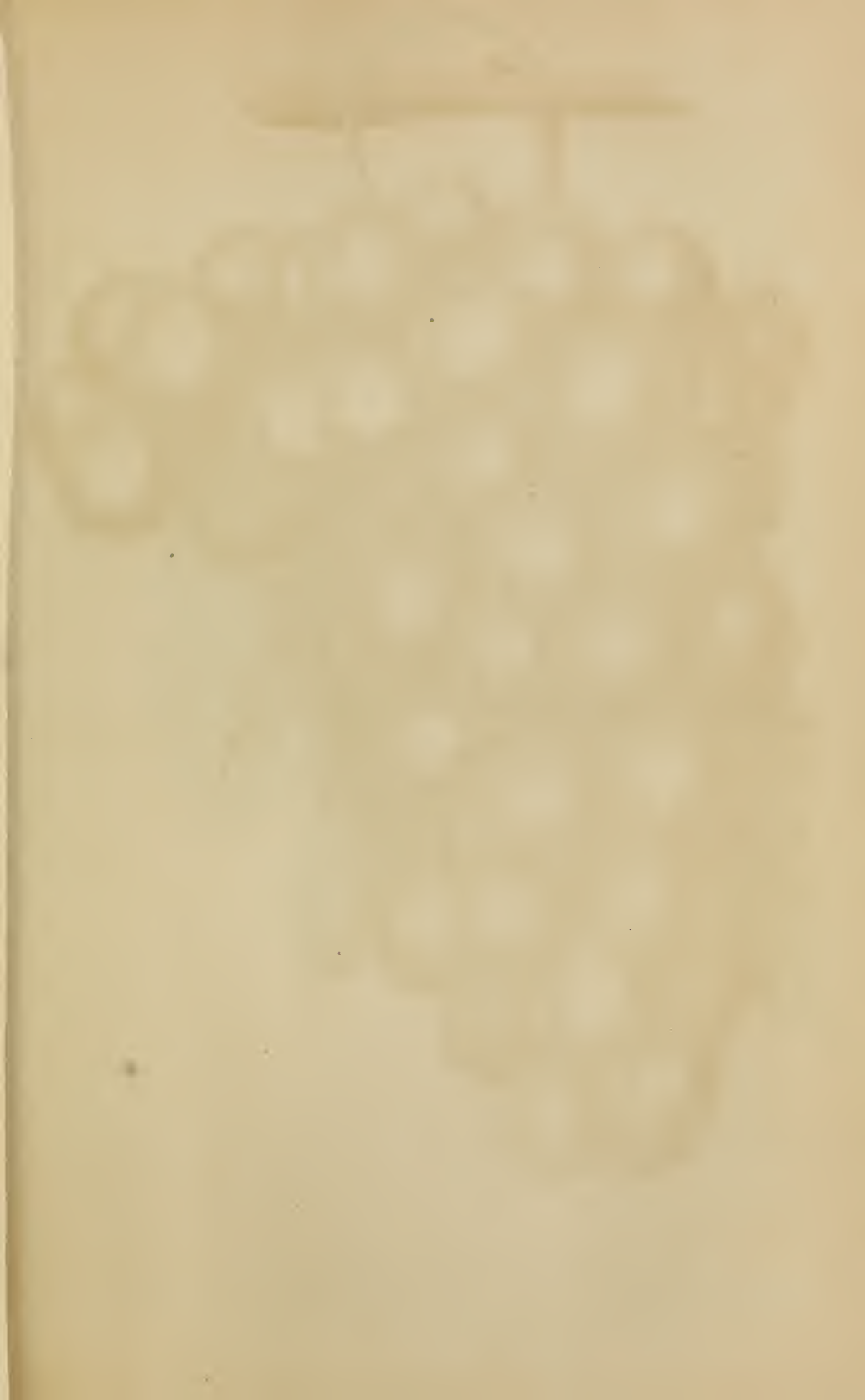


## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.







KAPLE & CO. ROCHESTER N.Y.

→POCKLINGTON GRAPE.<

This is an exact copy of a photograph of a cluster weighing one pound, picked from a four-year-old vine, bearing 22 bunches, weighing in the aggregate  
14 pounds ;

See Page 5.

# THE MARYLAND FARMER:

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture, and Rural Economy.

Vol. XVIII.

BALTIMORE, JULY, 1881.

No. 7.

## Gleanings about Ensilage and Silos.

### A SILO OF BOARDS.

A correspondent of the *Massachusetts Plowman* writes;—An enterprising young farmer, Mr. Clemence, a neighbor of mine, constructed a silo of boards with tarred paper between, in one corner of his barn and cellar, twelve feet square and twelve feet deep. Into this he put what corn fodder he had, and on top what rowen he had, filling the silo nearly full. The latter was put in uncut. This was covered and weighted. About Thanksgiving time, he opened it, and it was quite as fragrant as the sample I showed you. When he came to his corn fodder that was found to have kept just as well as mine in a cement silo. There was not a single pound lost, and his cattle ate it ravenously, largely increasing the quantity of milk. Does this not demonstrate the fact that a silo can be built of wood? He did not bank his up with earth, but he shuts up his barn cellar in winter. I would say to the small farmer that what has been done once can be done again, I do not believe that there can be a cheaper way to press than with stones. I presume ten loads would weigh twenty-five tons. All silos should be so constructed as to be filled easily, and so attached to the stable that it can be easily, thrown into it, otherwise the increase of labor required would deacease the profits.

No proposed change in time honored methods of agriculture has excited so deep an interest as the recent experiments in preserving green forage in silos or cement lined pits. One of the earliest adventurers in this new field was Mr Clark W. Mills of Arrareek farm, near Pompton N. J., and his silos are now as extensive as any in the country. His success last year was so encouraging that he is now wintering 120 head of cattle and 12 horses, without a pound of hay, and is confident that he will bring his entire stock

through, until May weather furnishes grazing. His store of ensilage or ("cow kraut," as facetious farmers style the preserved fodder,) was gathered from less than 13 acres of land. Mr. Mills estimates the entire cost of his supply of about 600 tons, including seed, tillage, gathering, cutting and packing ready for feeding, at less than \$500, and when it is remembered that a sufficient amount of hay to answer the same purpose would have cost something like \$7,500, the value of the new process will be recognized.—*N. Y. Tribune.*

The Buckley Brothers, near Port Jervis, N. Y., built two silos last Summer, under the cow stables, each 9x22 feet' and 15½ feet deep, and filled them with 130 tons of green cut corn stalks from eight acres. When the silos were filled, a layer of straw was put on the stalks, and planks on top, heavily weighted. In mid-winter one silo was opened. A vinous or alcoholic odor was noticed. The surface was spoiled to the depth of about two inches. Below this, the fodder was sweet and nice, and of a pleasant odor. The fodder was slightly warm and about the same temperature as far down 'as we could penetrate. It was of a light brown or dark straw color. When the silo was opened the cattle were fed the ensilage, who ate it with evident relish—all except the spoiled coating before alluded to—and they were licking the floor where it had lain.—

JOHN WINSLOW JONES says the best silos are built of wood, above ground, with the walls packed in sawdust. They should be as deep as possible to bring a heavy weight to help pack the ensilage. They should be filled slowly, so as to settle well before filling up. He does not approve of mixing straw with the wet material, and thinks 25 tons to the acre a good yield. The weighting stones should weigh three tons to the 10 feet square of top surface. He has had two years' experience with ensilage, and predicts a wonderful future for it.—*American Dairyman.*



I built a silo, last summer, 16x16 and 12 feet deep, in a red clay soil, and did not wall it with stone. The silo is inside of a tobacco barn. I filled it one-fourth full of cut corn and 20 two-horse wagon loads of cut clover, fresh from the field; and as my corn had begun to get hard, I put in 30 wagon loads of the tops of corn, cut up in half inch lengths. I weighted it down heavily with stone upon two-inch timbers. I opened it December 22, and found it in perfect order. I have, since that day, been feeding the top corn to 25 head of steers and they are doing finely upon it. I sprinkled a little salt over it as we put it in, and think it was beneficial. Another year, I expect to build another silo, under my sheep barn, 40x16 feet, and 12 feet deep.—*N. Long, of Kentucky.*

Mr. George P. Lord, of Elgin, at the Dairymen's Convention, at Janesville, said that ensilage and cheap fodder were synonymous terms. A gentleman in New York had tried it three years, preserving 300 tons of fodder last year, which was better when fed than when cut. The ordinary cost of feeding a cow is from 16 to 20 cents per day; by ensilage, not over nine cents, a saving per year of \$25 to \$40, or the price of the cow. The cost of raising a yearling steer, weighing 1,100 pounds, and worth \$55, would be \$31.33. By the old method it would have cost from \$58.40 to \$73, to have raised the steer to the same perfection. By packing grass with corn in the silo, 6 to 12 cows may be kept on the product of the land necessary to support one cow by the usual method. One experiment on feeding a cow 40 pounds of ensilage for 34 days, showed an increase of 53 pounds in weight.

We find in the New England Farmer the following plain and sensible letter, from Capt. Morton, of Vermont, about ensilage, his silo, how he made both, and other matters, all of which will be very interesting to the reader,

"I wish you would allow me space to correct what I am reported as saying about ensilage, before the Vermont Dairymen's Association. Having built the first silo in these parts, I was requested by Mr. Mason, the President, to attend the meeting and explain what I could about it; I did so, with a good deal of inconvenience to myself. I only had a few moments before train time to make explanations, and as I was leaving there were many questions asked; one was, how much did it cost to put the fodder into the silo? And I answered, \$10, which was the exact money I paid out for help, including horse hire. I had a boy and a large horse, and my own labor, which, of course, I did not think of; for what I wanted to show, in all I said about the silo system, was, that any small farmer could build one and fill it with very little help; and somehow, the *American Cultivator* got it that \$10 was all it cost to raise the crop of 40 tons, and fill the silo, (and come to actual facts, it did not cost much more,) for I did all but one day's ploughing my-

self, with my one horse planting as fast as I ploughed, right around on the furrows, and what my planter did not cover, was covered by the Thomas Smoothing Harrow, which I put immediately on. It was well along in June, ground very dry, and by planting as soon as plowed, the corn came up at once.

"I used Dr. Bailey's seed, which grew much larger than any of the other kinds. I had Sanford, Southern white and sweet, but I found a vast difference in the corn. Many people came and looked at it, and you will hear of a hundred tons being raised in more than one place, when we get our land rich enough, and plant the proper distance. My best was  $3\frac{1}{2}$  feet apart, 2 and 3 kernels to a foot,  $2\frac{1}{2}$  inches in diameter, 12 feet high, much of it. \* \* \*

"There was a great cry around here, amongst what Senator Hoar calls the Bourbons, that I was feeding too much meal and bran, (four quarts to cows in milk;) I also cut all the straw, corn stalks and hay, and mixed with it. The result is that my cows gave milk all winter; seven of them have come in, and give *double the milk* they did last year when I fed grain but did not cut the fodder; and I am sure I have saved one-third of the hay by cutting. How did I learn all this? By reading that a farmer had cut all his hay for 25 years. I am also taken up by some of the croakers, for saying that ensilage doubles its value by cooking in the silos, without adding anything to it; (how some men like to quote the scientists,) Dr. Bailey answered that question to Professor Armsby—neither do you add anything to a potato by cooking.

"I wish, in conclusion, to say: all I wish to demonstrate, and have done, is, that a cheap silo is just as good as a costly one, and one can put the fodder into the silo and raise it, including seed, for \$25 the 100 tons, and I am going to keep account of every expense this year, to see what can be done. My silo is sixty feet long, with partition wall, this I will take out, so that I can use a horse to tread down, with the help of two men and my boy, 12 years old. I put, from the standing fodder, 20 tons, cut from 5 inches to one-quarter inch, and packed in one day. It is no sign nor rule because M. Goffart and hundreds of others make it cost \$100 a ton, that it cannot be done cheaper. We Americans are a progressive race, and what one man does another will do still better. See what Mr. Jones has done with sawdust and boards; and I am going to follow him this year, and put one in my barn.

"What I take pride in, is doing these things *myself*; going to work gave me health, religion and a clear head; no headache now, no cider, nor tobacco—a free man, headed for home, pilot on board, no anxiety approaching the unknown work, for I have a safe guide. Now, if you, Mr. Editor, will please publish what I say in my *own words*, for I am responsible and know what I want to say better than anybody else. If the *Cultivator* had done so, there would have been no room for all this criticism. Of course, you must expect an old shell of a sea captain, 45 years at sea, to be somewhat odd.

"My wife has just told me that we are making 60 pounds of butter a week from the seven cows, more than double what we made last year.

These cows are from the old homestead stock, native; all raised here at home; one 2-years old, two 3-years and one 4-years, and three cows. Will you please tell me how this yield compares with other Vermont dairies? I was milking some of these cows New Years. Calves now four weeks old. G. MORTON."

March 28th, 1881.

The following is also from the *New England Farmer*, which as we desire to give the views of both sides on this absorbing question, we here insert. It is deserving consideration, coming from Mr. Joseph P. Eaton, formerly the editor of that old and reliable journal. It will be seen that while Mr. Eaton is not yet convinced of the superiority of ensilage over the old plan of curing hay and fodder, he does not condemn it, but is inclined to await results and urges farmers to do so also. Now, we think that every farmer should test the matter for himself, on a small scale, at first. If every man waits for his neighbor to fully test anything that is new, the thing will never be sufficiently experimented with to prove solid results. But we let Mr. Eaton speak for himself.

#### SILOS.

"In discussing the question of feeding farm animals, it should always be kept in mind that it is only one of the many links that go to make up the whole chain of agriculture. We should also remember that if it is not the chief end, it is the chief aim of mankind to get a living. How is that done? Why, simply by destroying the products of our own labor, to a certain extent, or of the labor of others, for we all depend upon each other. Therefore, as agriculture is admitted by all to be the foundation of all other industries we must look sharp, and see to it that correct principles are not covered up or thrown aside, by some that will not bear the test of time and practice: for if they are, disaster is sure to follow.

"In feeding farm animals, I claim, lies the main link of the chain, and anything that weakens it, weakens the whole; for by the keeping of animals, a farmer not only looks to them for what returns he may receive for milk, butter, cheese, &c., but also to the waste product of one year, to give him the means of producing as much, at least, as he did the year before; but it is very evident that in order to do that he must return as much plant food to the soil as he caused to be removed the year previous; if he does not, he will surely meet with disappointment, for no one ever gained anything by disobeying nature or nature's laws. The soil cannot give up what it does not contain.

"It naturally follows, then, that we must look to the food that the animals subsist upon for the elements to enrich our soil for the purpose of growing future crops. I contend that the more anyone can destroy upon his farm, at a profit, the better for his farm, and if better for the farm, the better the one who owns it; for, if he can accumulate under his barn, or anywhere else, a

much larger quantity of plant food than he had the year before, he is in a condition to produce subsistence in much larger quantities than the year before.

"Now, if we go upon the principles that we must keep our animals upon cheap food, strictly speaking, we shall surely fail for our stock of fertilizing material upon which we depend to produce future crops will diminish year by year, and just in proportion as that grows less, do we lose our powers over nature. This cry of cheap food always leads me to mistrust whatever is advocated under that heading, but, if our friends who believe in silos and ensilage will prove to my satisfaction, that by feeding one hundred dollars' worth (feeding value is reckoned by them,) of corn fodder in the form of ensilage, there will be left upon the farm as much fertilizing material as there would be from two hundred dollars worth of hay, (say clover, for we need not feed timothy unless we choose to.) then, I will admit they have gained one point. But just here, I would like to put this question to some of my brother farmers. Ensilage being a fermented food, is it not a stimulant to a certain degree? And if so, is it a proper food for breeding animals, and, on the other hand, should we feed milch cows such food, when we know that young children from birth are to be the ones to live upon it. No physician would recommend or allow a mother to eat fermented food while nursing a young child. Then, if the cow takes the place of the mother in furnishing food for it, ought not care to be used in feeding such animals, so that we, as farmers, can say that we have endeavored to do all we can to keep up the health of the children in the cities? I think that if people will take the trouble, they will find that in Europe, where breeding is followed, it is never used, at least, I have not been able to find a case where they have.

"But to make a long story short, I will say, that if by feeding ensilage, a farmer's income from his animals is increased, and the health of the animals just as good, and the waste product equal in value, the expenses of keeping, no more than upon dry food, then I am free to acknowledge that there is a strong point gained in its favor, but I must say, that until that time comes I shall not build a silo. Before closing, let me say to the farmers of New England, that they, especially those of limited means, can afford to wait, for if we can accomplish as much by feeding ensilage as its friends claim, five years will be all that is wanted to make our fortunes. On the other hand, if the system fails to produce the results expected, by waiting, farmers will save their money and their time.

JOSEPH P. EATON.

The following admirable reply to Mr. Eaton, we find in the *New England Farmer* of the 28th May, just one week after Mr. Eaton's article appeared.

We feel justified in giving so much space in our columns to ensilage, as it is now the



engrossing subject with farmers—its importance demanding all the attention and consideration that can be given it—at this particular season of the year.

"In the *Farmer* of this date, received yesterday, I find two articles which ought to be read in connection; the first, a communication on the subject of "Silos," by Mr. J. P. Eaton; the second, the "Report of the Boston Live Stock Market," by your regular reporter; the first, adducing certain objections against ensilage on purely theoretical grounds, and the second unintentionally offering valuable practical testimony in its favor in these words:

"Mr. Fitch also handled 22 cattle fed by M. H. Simpson of Savonville, Mass., fattened on ensilage and meal, sold to H. Bird & Co., and av. 1450 pounds, very fat and fine, \* \* \* Not all the good cattle at our market can the West claim. The State cattle noticed from Saxonville, fed by M. H. Simpson, come as near gilt edge as any offered."

"This terse statement of your reporter is evidence of exactly the highest class, because it was not made as such, but it is a simple statement of a fact as noticed by an entirely disinterested observer.

"Most of us who have practiced the new system of feeding, have done so but for one season, or at the most, two, and have had our mistakes to make and our experience to gain. Of course some have succeeded better than others, and it would be nothing to be wondered at if some should have utterly failed, but—and this remark I wish to emphasize,—I have yet to hear of one practical farmer who has tried it and will pronounce it a failure, out of over twenty whom I am acquainted with, either personally or by correspondence. On the contrary, not only is every man of them going to try it again this year, but in most cases their neighbors, having looked at the practical results, rather than the imaginary objections raised by the doubters, are preparing to follow in their footsteps.

"The first point made by your correspondent is, that the manure pile will not increase so fast from animals fed on ensilage as from the same animals kept upon hay. (Of course, grain of some kind is fed with ensilage, the same as with hay.) In this connection, he says:

"If our friends who believe in silos and ensilage will prove to my satisfaction, that by feeding one hundred dollars' worth of corn fodder

in the form of ensilage, there will be left upon the farm as much fertilizing material as there would be from two hundred dollars worth of hay, then I will admit that they have gained one point."

"I should think he might; if we will do just exactly twice as much with ensilage as he can with hay, he will admit that we 'have gained one point.' This is almost too modest; however, I believe it can be done. There is another way of turning hay into manure, besides running it through your cattle, and that is by selling it and buying manure with the proceeds. If you have, say, ten acres of mowing land, whose hay product you are going to feed to your cattle, five acres of that land in ensilage corn will furnish more than equal amount of cattle food, which will make some manure, and the hay from the other five acres can be sold and its proceeds added to the manure pile, which, I am confident will make it twice as valuable as it would have been, had the whole ten acres been in hay, to be fed out to your cattle.

"With regard to the 'fermented food' argument; does not your correspondent know that every morsel of bread he puts into his mouth is 'fermented food?' or that the Pennsylvania Dutchman absolutely gets fat on fermented sour krout? (And, by the way, ensilage and sour krout have several points of resemblance.) There are people who appear to think that because alcoholic and intoxicating liquors are fermented, therefore everything that is fermented is alcoholic and intoxicating. Indeed I noticed in the *Farmer*, some months ago, a terrible wail from one of your correspondents, who feared that our cattle were going to contract habits of intoxication, and talked about the 'poor cow drunkards,' and the like. At the time, I thought he was, as Artemus Ward used to say, 'Speekin satirikel,' but I am convinced now, that he knew so little about the subject he was discussing, as to believe that it was possible for such a thing to happen. Perhaps Mr. Simpson, of Saxonville, sold those 22 excellent cattle because they were habitual drunkards. It is really difficult to answer such an argument. It is as when Jenner was endeavoring to introduce the practice of vaccination, physicians of the highest repute urged against it that it was introducing beastly diseases among the children of men, who would soon come to bellow like cattle if the business of inocu-



lating them with matter from sick cows was persisted in. To reply to such nonsense was impossible.

"The same kind of clap-trap is indulged in by a New Hampshire dentist, who says that ensilage is so soft that it does not give the teeth sufficient exercise, and the cows' teeth will drop out; and he instances a squirrel who was fed six months on cake, etc., and lost his ability to eat his natural food. That dentist, if he knows anything, ought to know that while the natural food of the squirrel is hard shelled nuts, the natural food of cattle is succulent, green grass, fully as soft as ensilage and causing as little exercise of the teeth; and that dried hay is entirely an artificial food.

"But after all, the principal argument against it is, that Professor This and Doctor That, who are scientific men, do not advocate it. That does not frighten me in the least. I can myself remember when such eminent scientific authority as Dr. Lardner declared that the Atlantic Ocean could never be safely crossed by steam vessels. A commission of the most eminent scientific engineers in England, once reported to Parliament that the scheme of a railroad for the transportation of freight, at the rate of ten miles an hour was absurd and impracticable. The fact is, scientific men have made a good many mistakes. They are too apt to be bigoted, and to frown upon any achievement which does not bear their trade-mark; to declare dogmatically that certain things cannot be done, while some hard headed George Stephenson is quietly going to work and doing them. In this ensilage matter I have twenty witnesses who haven't the first scintilla of science about them, but whose testimony will outweigh all the theorists in New England. They all go on four legs, and have fed principally upon ensilage for the past eight months. They all have sound teeth, good digestion and good appetites; several of them have recently given birth to healthy calves, and others are expected to; their habits are good, I never saw one of them drunk, even on this terrible *fermented* ensilage; and lastly, the manure pile is just as large as if it had cost me fifty per cent. more to feed them through the winter. Mr. Simpson's 22 'gilt edge' cattle are just so many more witnesses of the same sort.

"Now I am not anxious to have other

people build silos; indeed, I would like for five years to hold an exclusive right to build them myself, then I would retire. But I would say to all who are seeking light upon the matter, go to anyone who has fed ensilage for two seasons, and look over his stock for yourself; cross-examine the man and his cows, and then if you are afraid of it, let it alone, for no man ever learned to swim who was afraid of the water." S.

*Middlesex Co., Mass., May 21.*

### Farm Work for July.

July is one of the busiest months in the farmers and planters calendar. The harvest of grain and grass will occupy the chief attention, while the growing crops are to be cultivated and some of them to be planted, as opportunities occur, and all should be done at the right time. Such being the necessities of the case every man must be on the alert, and at work early and late, until the pressure be over and the harvest finished. Order and system and example accomplish more than large expenditures without judicious application under the masters eye.

#### Corn.

This is a critical period with the corn crop. The past season was unusually unpropitious to its success in many parts of our country. The seed came up badly owing to the grain not having matured properly, last autumn being very wet—it is supposed by many as the cause, and the cut worm was very troublesome, it destroyed whole fields so that the whole crop had to be replanted, hence, is much less forward than usual at this season. Had our advice as to sowing salt broadcast just before the last harrowing prior to planting, been followed, we question whether any replanting would have been required because of the depredation of the cut worm. Corn is a crop which requires during its growth, frequent stirring of the soil and level cultivation, until it begins to show signs of tasselling. From the time it comes up until "laid bye" it should be worked with the smoothing harrow, hoe or cultivator, once every week certainly. To do so, extra labor should be employed if necessary, for that expence will be well repaid by the product. A few days neglect of this crop

often proves disastrous. We have found it a good practice to sow broadcast over the corn, just before it gets the last working, a bushel or two per acre of gypsum. There may be much truth in the theory that plaster is of no use on many soils as a fertilizer or stimulant even to certain crops on some lands, but we know that it acts well on all broad leaf plants in some form, either as a plant-food or as a stimulant, and especially on corn, tobacco, cabbage and clover. We have seen wonderful effects on such plants by its use, especially in a dry season.

#### **Cow Peas.**

When the corn is worked with the cultivator, for the last time, sow cow peas broadcast and cover them with the cultivator so that it will be done at one operation. The corn, of course, ought to be in four feet wide rows or drills. If much nearer it might impede by its shade the growth of the peas. The dressing of plaster as recommended above, will help the peas. As soon as the corn is glazed well, it should be cut off and put in stooks in rows wide apart and the peas will soon grow so thick and tall that a rich green crop will be ready to be turned under by the plow, and be decomposed as a valuable fertilizer in time for sowing wheat, which can best be done by a drill, after the roller has been passed over the plowed under peas. After the drill has been used, we would advise another rolling of the land either before or after the wheat comes up, so as to compress the land which the decomposing vines may render too porous for the wheat roots. We cannot too often express our conviction that the pea or bean crop, is one of, if not the best—equal to clover—green crops that has ever been used as a renovator of worn-out soils. A full crop of pea vines, well plowed under will be equal as a fertilizer for wheat to 500 pounds of manipulated fertilizer as commonly sold in the market. This is our ipse dixit only. If the soil requires lime, then of course we would spread 20 or 25 bushels of lime on the young wheat so as to act on the humus supplied by the pea crop, and not be confined alone to the wheat crop as furnishing plant food.

We are glad to know that some of our farmers are this season trying what our advice about peas is worth. They will experiment in sowing peas in the corn field, and using them as a green manure, both

with and without fertilizers for the ensuing wheat crop. We hope they will not forget to give results to us next year to publish for the benefit of their fellow farmers.

#### **Tobacco.**

The plenty of plants in the seed beds and the early good seasons of June, have, we hope, enabled our planters to have most of their tobacco crops set out. Our advice is, plant no more than you can take prime care of, cultivate well, keep free from worms and suckers, and have house-room for, and plant only on highly fertilized or manured, fertile and well prepared land. It is nonsense to plant tobacco, these days, on poor, badly cultivated ground, and have not the means to keep off the worms and no, or next to no house to cure it properly. It won't pay to grow tail-end tobacco. It is a bonanza crop if grown and cured properly. Poor tobacco is a drug—a hole in the purse of any planter—good tobacco is a luxury—a fortune to its grower.

#### **Millet and Broadcast Corn.**

It is a good time to sow millet and also broadcast or drilled corn, for feeding green or for curing into provender or for ensilaging. The latter we prefer rather than curing as fodder. Every man should sow a few acres in millet, or in corn, or both, for supplementing the declining pastures in August and September, or for feed in winter for the stock, that a goodly quantity may be kept over winter, so as to swell the manure pile. Keep a plentiful supply of well fed cattle, if you want to improve your farm rapidly and with the best and most enduring manure.

#### **Late Potatoes.**

It is not yet too late to plant potatoes. Plant on rich or well manured soil, good varieties, and use potash abundantly in the manure. Sow plaster and salt over the young vines as they appear above ground, and kill off the beetles or the great, inimical "bugs," by dusting with Paris green mixed in plaster and shaken over the vines, or in liquid form, administered by the "exterminator," (see advertisement in this number.) Try some of the new varieties, you cannot lose by planting a bushel of one or more varieties of the novelties, and you may hit upon a sort that suits your soil exactly.

#### **Hay Harvest.**

Cut all grasses before the seeds ripen,



Mow after the dew is off. Keep, if possible, from rain, until it is cured, and then, as quickly as possible, put in mow, or stacks well secured by topping off with straw.

#### **Buckwheat.**

Sow some acres in this easily grown crop, or sow it for turning under as a green crop for fertilization. If, for the latter purpose, sow one bushel per acre. If for seed, sow three pecks per acre. If you have an apiary or only a few hives for bees, sow a lot in proportion to your amount of bees, as a resource for their manufactories, if, for no other purpose. The crop is a profitable one, as it requires less work and accommodates itself to a poorer soil than any grain crop.

#### **Orchards.**

Keep the trunks and larger limbs of all fruit trees clean and healthy by a wash composed of one part sulphur fine as powder, two parts soft soap, one part salt, all reduced by water to the consistency of whitewash, and to every bucket or three gallons, add half a pint of coal oil. The latter is considered to be an effectual remedy against the borer curculio, and a preventive for all insects. Apply with a whitewash brush or mop of rags or sheepskin.

#### **Stock of all kinds.**

All domestic animals in pasture fields should have daily access to salt and ashes of good wood, and pure, clean water, with shade or shelter in abundance. Young stock should be carefully attended to and gently handled and familiarized to their future usefulness, for it is when the colt or calf is by its mother's side that its future education should begin, if its owner wants a gentle and useful animal at the expense of little risk and labor and trouble. Train your animals when young and you will have no bother when they grow older to make them do all that is required of them. Young colts should be handled often, and so with calves; they soon will look for kindness and little attentions on the part of their keeper as do children from their nurses. There is not enough stock, as a rule, on any of our farms, and not enough raised whether we look to stock as a money investment in our farming business, or as necessary for the continuous improvement of our soils. We must grow grass and keep more stock, or our lands will never

improve. On light lands, keep large, heavy stock to impact the soil. The more stock, the more manure, and the quicker the lands are made fertile. But to have much stock, there must be a plentiful supply of grass, which crop by its roots improves the soil, and from its vegetation food is supplied to cattle, who return it again as plant food. There is now every inducement for farmers to raise horses, cattle, hogs and sheep. All are in demand and fetch high prices, and it has been clearly demonstrated that improved breeds pay much the best. Purely common stock of any kind never pay for their keep, while improved stock always pay well if properly attended to, and a high bred animal costs no more to keep than a scrub. A pedigreed animal will bring four times the price of one without a pedigree. All stock can so easily be improved by careful breeding from pure bred male animals, and so cheaply, especially, if a few neighbors will combine, that it is a wonder there is not more fine stock seen than we meet with. We earnestly urge this matter upon the consideration of our farmers.

#### **Ensilage.**

We heartily commend the system of ensilage to our readers, and would respectfully urge upon our planters and farmers, and especially all dairymen to try, if only a small amount this year, and begin in time to make silos. The plan of saving green forage instead of curing into hay or fodder, will, we are satisfied, become universal before long. Its advantages will be so apparent to every one who tries it, that in a few years, as a rule, winter butter will be as plenty and far more preferable than summer butter, a far greater amount of beef will be fattened on every farm, and of better quality, and hence there will be raised double or treble the amount of beef, pork, mutton, &c. than is now attempted to be produced on the most productive grass and hay farms. Your cattle of all sorts and kinds will have nutritious, succulent food in winter and early spring, as well as in the midst of luxuriant summer.

#### **Fruit Drying and Evaporating.**

Every farmer who is so far from market as to be unable to dispose of his fruit as it ripens, at fair prices, should possess a fruit dryer or evaporator. Fruit, properly evaporated, sells for more than the same



fruit, fresh gathered, brings in summer in the market. The transportation, labor and expenses are not one-eighth in amount and the offal is retained at home for the pigs, which alone pays for the extra expense of paring and evaporating. Not a pound of fruit would be lost, where hundreds of pounds might be, if there was no fruit dryer on the premises. We know of what we write when we say that properly evaporated fruit and vegetables are better than canned, and almost equal to the fruit just gathered from the tree, or vegetables from the garden. We have eaten the evaporated tomato and sweet potato, which we thought equal in all respects to those fresh pulled from the vines. And the same of peaches and other fruits, even the small fruits retain all their fine flavor and almost perfectness of form, after being soaked, to restore the same quantity of water as they had parted with by the evaporating process. There are many inventions for drying and evaporating fruits and vegetables, some of which are very costly and upon an extensive scale, but we think those made by the American Fruit Dryer Co., and advertised in our columns, is about as good as any, and suited to the wants of small growers of fruits, requiring so small an outlay in money and time as will enable every owner of a hundred fruit trees to possess one, and pay for it twice over in the first year's use, by saving such fruits and vegetables as would be otherwise lost. Fruit once evaporated will keep for years. Just think, in a few hours, one can secure for a whole year, for his family use, a supply of the luscious sweet potatoes that we all know is so difficult to preserve sound during even part of the winter, the same may be said of tomato and of berries, like the strawberry and blackberry, both are difficult to keep, even when preserved in their own weight of sugar, which makes after all but a sort of Jelly or dissolved sugar, tintured with the flavor of the berry, while the evaporated article will keep for long, and when used, has nearly all the concomitant characteristics that so eminently give them their great popularity as delicious fruit when in their season.

---

BECAUSE it adds to personal beauty by restoring color and lustre to gray or faded hair, and is beneficial to the scalp, is why Parker's Hair Balsam is such a popular dressing.

### Garden Work for July.

The garden now requires constant and full attention. The first crops of vegetables have been disposed of, and some have ripened their seeds and the ground on which they were grown must be prepared for other crops, and another lot of seeds and plants must receive attention in being sown or planted at the right moment.

*Melons, &c.*—Keep the ground well stirred and free from weeds, taking care not to bruise or disturb the vines of water-melons, canteloupes, cucumbers, &c. Pinch off the terminal buds to make the vines set fruit, and to stop them from running too far.

*Seeds for pickling.*—Prepare, at once, beds for cucumbers, canteloupes, (for mangoes) and gherkins, and set out plants of red cabbage, all for pickles. See that the beds are well prepared, and the hills made rich with well rotted manure or rich compost.

*Egg-plants, Peppers, Tomatoes.*—Set out more plants of all these, in addition to what are already growing, and bearing. Too many tomatoes you can never have. *Hybrid yellow Turnips.*—Sow seeds of these early this month. Dales' Hybrid or yellow Aberdeen are good old sorts. White turnips are not sown until the middle of August.

*Dwarf Beans.*—Sow, at intervals, a few rows of these. The white or black wax are the best for this season.

*Cabbage.*—Set out plants of flat dutch, drumhead Savoy, curled Savoy, or other good sorts of cabbage for winter use. Rich soil, well prepared, often cultivated, are essential requisites for this plant. If worms appear, use salt and plaster, a small quantity of the former, whale oil soap suds, or some one of the many remedies suggested in the agricultural journals, by those who have experimented in encounters with these pests that have lately become so ruinous to the cabbage crop. The best remedy we know of, is to offer such rewards for the capture of the little yellow or white butterfly, that at this season, and for a month past, is so numerous in places, as will induce the boys and girls to assiduously engage in the work of killing these beautiful but terrible enemies of the cabbage. Each little butterfly will lay eggs enough to hatch out an army of worms,

which in a few days, from the egg will destroy a field of large cabbage when forming the head or before the leaves begin to pack inward.

*Small Salading.*—Continue to sow small salading of every kind, each week during the month.

*Lettuce.*—Set out, weekly, a few lettuce plants.

*Radishes.*—Sow seeds of yellow radish, or Spanish sorts, each week.

*Celery.*—Be sure and set out a large number of celery plants this month. Do not be deterred because of the foolish talk that it requires great art and trouble to grow this popular vegetable. Set the plants in rich, light soil, keep the earth well stirred and it will grow with as little trouble as any other garden crop. Set the plants during a wet time, 6 inches apart, in rows 4 feet apart. Shade the plants a few days until they take root, and do not let them suffer for water. Set the plants in drills 8 inches deep and a spade wide, or plant on level ground as you would cabbage. At the proper time we will tell you how to blanch it.

*Cauliflower and Broccoli.*—Set out plants and treat as you do cabbages.

*Peas.*—Plant a few rows of the early sorts, and water the drills, when planted. If the season be dry, water them well until rain comes. They will prove a luxury in September.

*Corn.*—Continue to plant sweet corn at intervals during the month, so as to have a succession of roasting ears, until frost. As you dig your early potatoes it is a good plan to plant corn in the same rows.

*Spinach.*—Sow spinach about the 20th, to have a good supply of this wholesome dish during the fall.

*Leeks.*—Transplant these the early part of the month.

*Pot and Medicinal Herbs.*—Gather these, dry them in the shade or in some dry, airy place, and pack them carefully away in paper bags.

*Propagation of Herbs.*—Set out plants, or slips, if no plants, of sage, thyme, winter savory, hyssop, lavender, &c., and water them often and liberally until they take root. If slips, they should be of this year's growth.

#### Orchards.

*Budding Plants.*—All fruit trees can be budded from now until middle of August,

which latter month is the best for peaches. Cherries especially should be budded in July.

*Thinning Plants.*—Orchardists rarely thin their fruits enough. During June and July, all the trees that require it should be thinned. Much is saved by thorough and careful thinning, in the quality, and not lost in the actual amount of crop. Trees are often materially injured by overbearing. Pears, especially, have a tendency to overbear and are thereby seriously injured. One year's over exertion in producing an excessive crop of poor fruit will make them unproductive for years, and perhaps they will never recover their vigor and fruitfulness.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### The Tenant System vs. Ownership of Land.

#### NUMBER TWO.

In continuing this discussion, I need only point to the present discouraging contest between English landlords and Irish tenants, as evidence that landed property, when handed down as many large English estates, shorn of all means for necessary improvements and heavily burdened with debts, is not the most satisfactory inheritance.

There are many sacred wrongs, as old as the ages, that unite patriotic Irishmen to-day. As far back as the beginning of the Plantagenet, Henry II, Englishmen were aggressors, seizing the fairest portions of Irish territory. Out of a sum total of 23,000,000 acres of agricultural lands, 600,000 were confiscated by Queen Elizabeth; James, the Stuart, added 800,000 more to the English crown, and William III, claiming by forfeiture 1,000,000 acres, distributed the same among Protestant Englishmen. At present, 20,500,000 acres are held by 10,000 owners, three of whom possess 100,000 acres each. Thus 5,000,000 native Irishmen, without an acre of land of their forefathers, are forced to acknowledge foreign masters.

Famine, starvation and emigration in their turn, have kept alive the deep-rooted prejudices, which, now culminating, are ripe for revolution.

Beaconfield's long career of military splendor left him no time to right the



wrongs of Ireland. Gladstone's attempt at conciliation, it seems, has come too late to bring relief.

France, Switzerland and Belgium, with their millions of contented peasant proprietors, have inspired down-trodden Ireland with the hope of regaining the rights of freemen, peaceably, if she can, forcibly, if she must.

The old Roman law of bequest gave to each child a legitimate portion. In France, since the revolution, a parent is only allowed to dispose of the share of one child. This severe restriction is opposed to the primogeniture of England, by which large landed estates are held intact by the eldest son of the family.

In France, there are four millions of contented peasant proprietors, thrifty, energetic and independent. In England, an aristocratic gentry dictate terms to a hard working, discontented peasantry.

Switzerland offers a striking example of peasant freedom, prosperity and patriotism. In that unfavored, sterile country, indefatigable industry has made the Swiss peasant historic. At 5 o'clock in the morning the laborer is at work in the fields; long after the sun has gone down, he is mowing grass or tying up his vines. Fields, gardens, hedges, trees, flowers, vegetables, all show unmistakable signs of careful cultivation.

The Alpine peasant lives almost entirely upon the produce of his land. Flax is grown, spun and woven. Wool is made into blue cloth by the producer.

In no other country of Europe are there so few poor. In the village of Suss, containing about six hundred inhabitants, not a single individual is indebted for a morsel that he eats. It is further declared, since the sub-division of feudal estates has been made to peasant proprietors, that a third or a fourth part of an estate produces as much grain, and supports as many head of cattle as the whole estate formerly did. The oldest and most numerous proprietors are in Norway.

The subject of irrigation under a system of co-operation, is there made a special feature in producing hay, corn, potatoes, which from the shallow rock soil, under a powerful reflection of the sun, wither and perish, unless well watered. A wooden trough is made to lead from the highest stream among the hills, through woods, across ravines, along the rocky, often perpendicular

sides of the glens. From this main trough a lateral one is given to each farmer in passing. This supply is then distributed by movable troughs among the fields.

In one glen, a writer, Mr. Laing, says: "I walked ten miles and found it troughed on both sides;" on one, the chain is continued down the valley for forty miles. The excellent state of the roads and bridges, without tolls, is another proof that there is a common interest at stake. The English farmer holds that it is absurd to talk of farming, except upon a large scale, with abundance of capital to pay for draining, manuring, regular rotations, valuable stock, implements and hired labor. Yet, the same observer says, "we see better crops on the ground in Flanders, East Friesland, Holstein, in short, on the whole line of arable land of equal quality of the Continent, from the sound to Calais, than we see on the line of British coast, opposite to this line, and in the same latitudes, from Frith of Forth all around to Dover." Large farmers of Berwickshire, Roxburyshire, do not pretend to cultivate with such garden-like care, such attention to manures and drainage, as distinguish farmers of Flanders. More land is wasted in the corners, roads, fence rows, clumps of trees, in England, than would maintain the poor of the parish, if cultivated. Furrow draining, stall feeding all summer, liquid manures, are universal in Switzerland, Lombardy and Belgium. Cheese manufacture, beet-root sugar, flax, hemp, legumes, fruit, poultry are embraced in their system of husbandry.

Mr. Howitt, an English writer, in describing peasant farming in the Palatinate of Germany, cannot resist the thought that their hearts are in their work, and therefore, are the most industrious peasantry in the world. Each farmer is his own master; he is never in a hurry; he plods on, from day to day, with a bold, determined will, for he is a free man. Even in the dead of winter there is a perpetual work, hauling out of manure, getting wood and ditching. In England, after harvest, there is comparative rest, but here there is a continued rotation of market gardening operations, which require the most unwearied watchfulness. Professor Rau testifies that agriculture is ever on the progressive, and the farmer is always ready to be in the first ranks of economical industry. Mr. Kay



declares it a fact, that in the last thirty years, since peasants became proprietors of the land, there has been a rapid improvement in the houses, manner of living, dress and culture of the peasants. Walking twice through Saxony, he declares that no other farming in all Europe can excel it. The meadows are watered every spring with liquid manure, and the grass is as beautiful as English lawns. There is a generous rivalry in the quality and quantity of their produce.

A Prussian writer upon freeholds in land, is decidedly of the opinion that not only are the gross products of any given number of acres cultivated by peasant proprietors, greater than the gross products of an equal number of acres held by a few great proprietors, and cultivated by tenants, but the net products of the former are greater than the net products of the latter. The price of land in Prussian Rhine provinces is much higher than that on great estates.

In Belgium, where the soil is one of the worst in Europe, Mr. McCulloch thinks the Flemish agriculturist seems to want nothing but space to work. Upon these drifting sands broom is grown at first, which gives compactness to the soil; buckwheat and rye are then sown. Clover and potatoes are afterwards tried, and in a few years a complete change takes place. It is here that patient workers have for centuries enjoyed a rotation of crops, and an economy of manures which are but modern discoveries in England. Much may be learned to-day from the Flemings, in general practice, even though English capital may excel theirs. A Flemish peasant, owning six acres of land, supports his family upon two and a half acres, and devotes the produce of the remaining three and a half acres to increase his capital. The Channel Isles by the testimony of Mr. Thornton, speak eloquently for small farmers. Beggars are unknown. The savings show a larger per cent. of deposit proportionally, and the agricultural population is much greater than in England. The average farm is about 16 acres; the average produce of wheat per acre, is thirty-six bushels. Thirty shillings an acre is a fair rent in England; Alderney and Guernsey lands command as much as 4£.

The champion for large estates, Arthur Young, in travelling over France, refers to

a large tract, apparently but a bed of rocks, yet, fruit trees, vines and vegetables are growing successfully. Such a people, he thinks, would turn an arid waste into fruitful gardens. "The magic of property turns sand into gold."—This great writer, though an opposing theorist, is forced to declare that "property in land is, of all others, the most active instigator to severe and incessant labor."

I now close this protracted letter with the following truism; "Give a man the secure possession of a bleak rock, and he will turn it into a garden; give him a nine years' lease of a garden, and he will convert it into a desert."

J. D. WARFIELD.

## History of the Maryland Agricultural and Mechanical Association.

### CHAPTER XXIX.

November 1st, 1860, the Society met, pursuant to adjournment of the evening before. The chief business before the meeting was the election of officers for the ensuing year. President Merryman declined a re-election, and Mr. Ramsay McHenry proposed the name of Col. Oden Bowie, of Prince George's county for that office. Mr. Bowie promptly declined and in a few well chosen remarks, eulogistic of the retiring president, nominated him, Mr. Merryman, for re-election. This announcement was received with applause and Mr. Merryman then remarked:

"That on the assembling of the Society on Monday evening, every indication was presented of a most successful and gratifying issue of the present exhibition and with the full expectation that the Society would be left in a most prosperous condition, relieved from debt, and with a surplus on hand for future operations, he had in good faith determined to retire from his post; but the very great change which had taken place in the prospects of the Society, occasioned by the extremely inclement weather, had counteracted all our pleasing anticipations, and so far from leaving the Society unembarrassed, fears were now entertained that our receipts would be consider-

ably less than the expenses, notwithstanding the utmost economy had been introduced into every department of our operations, and at the earnest entreaty of a number of the members, whose wishes he felt constrained to consult, he had consented to serve for another term if it was the wish of the Society for him to do so.

The annunciation was hailed with the most earnest demonstrations of satisfaction by the meeting, and Mr. Merryman was unanimously re-elected.

With some few changes from resignations, the old list of officers were re-elected.

During the session Mr. Wright, of Pennsylvania, presented the following communication from the exhibitors of Agricultural Machinery, Implements, and miscellaneous articles, in their respective classes, which was read :

*To the Hon. John Merryman, President of the Md. Agricultural Society.*

The undersigned, who have been exhibitors at the Thirteenth Annual Exhibition of the Maryland State Agricultural Society, fully appreciate the efforts of the Society of which you are President, in the arrangements for the exhibition. In view, however, of the unusual inclemency of the weather, preventing an attendance which otherwise would have been the case, we are aware that the fair will not pay, and unite in withdrawing any claims we have on the Society, for premiums, trusting our course will be approved by other exhibitors. We do this for the purpose of aiding and encouraging the Society.

Signed by

Messrs. C. Aultman & Co., per E. C. Patterson; Spear Bros.; B. G. Fitzhugh; Sheldon & Co.; W. S. Stetson, for R. Sinclair & Co.; S. L. King; F. W. Smith; A. G. Mott; T. H. Wilson; D. M. Osbourn & Co.; Franklin Mace; Thomas Norris; Jno. Murphy; S. E. Harris & Co.; James Aldrich; E. Wills; Elijah Wagner; Grover & Baker; Gideon Pierce; B. F. Ray; D. Lafevre; J. D. Linton; Brayley & Pitts; Saml. Hoke; Bibb & Co.

After the reading of the above, the following communication was received from the gentlemen named, exhibitors of Live Stock, &c., to whom premiums had been awarded:

The subscribers hereby relinquish all claim upon the Maryland State Agricultural Society, for premiums awarded at the Thirteenth Annual Exhibition, at the same time expressing their sympathy with the officers of the Society, in the unfortunate state of the weather, which alone prevented the exhibition from being a great success.

O. Bowie,	S. T. C. Brown,
Jno. Merryman,	Jas. Mulliken,
Chauncey Brooks,	Ch. H. Tilghman,
Capt. Strandberg,	Thos. Woods.
Lloyd Lowndes,	Jno. S. Gitting,
Saml. Sands,	W. H. Oler
T. J. Clarke,	W. D. Brackenridge.
O. Zell,	W. T. Markland & Bro.
E. F. Jenkins,	W. C. Wilson.

Other gentlemen to whom premiums were awarded, also, in whole or in part, donated their premiums to the Society.

The thanks of the Society, on motion of Dr. Wharton, were unanimously tendered to the above gentlemen for their liberality; when the Society adjourned.

Such laudable conduct on the part of the exhibitors was highly encouraging to the Association, and manifested the deep interest that was felt in these fairs, as well as marked sympathy in the falling fortunes of the Society, owing to the inclemency of the weather. In all respects, this exhibition was the largest and best the Society had ever given, but in consequence of the interrupted rain and unpleasant weather, it proved a sad failure financially.

Every department of the Fair was well filled with objects and articles of high merit, except, strange to say, short-horn cattle. Of this fine breed, of which there were at that time so many noble specimens in Maryland and adjoining States, but very few were present and they were from Baltimore city and its vicinity. We give only one report in full and that is upon the "Herd Premiums."

The Committee on Herd Premiums beg leave to report that they had great pleasure in examining the large number of beautiful animals of various breeds, which were exhibited for their inspection. It is only necessary to say that the Devons were represented by the herds of Messrs. S. T. C. Brown, Oden Bowie, H. J. Strandberg,



J. H. McHenry, A. M. Morrison and W. H. Oler, to satisfy all who have seen the herds of these gentlemen, that your Committee had great difficulty in discharging the duties imposed on them. Your Committee felt that each of these herds richly merited a premium, but as they were restricted to one premium, they felt in duty bound to award it to S. T. C. Brown, Esq. The Ayrshires were represented by the beautiful herd of Ramsay McHenry, Esq., and although there was no competition, still the Committee unanimously awarded the herd the premium on account of the great merit of the animals.

In Alderneys, the Committee again had a difficult task to perform in awarding one premium where all were so deserving. The herds of Messrs. J. H. McHenry, E. F. Jenkins and Wm. C. Wilson, called for the warmest expressions of approbation from all the members of the Committee, and they only regretted that they were compelled to make a selection where all were so meritorious; but after a full examination of all, they awarded the premium to the herd of W. C. Wilson, Esq.

The Herefords were represented by the superior herd of J. Merryman, Esq., President of the Society, and although like the Ayrshires, there was no competition, still the great beauty and merits of the herd would deserve a premium at any exhibition, and your Committee accordingly awarded the herd the premium.

The Grades were presented by the herds of Messrs. W. H. Oler and Atwood Blunt, and the Committee awarded the premium to the Grade Devon herd of A. Blunt, Esq.

In conclusion, your Committee regret that there was no representatives of the noble short-horns, and they trust that in future exhibitions of the Society, the owners of this fine breed will not suffer themselves to be outdone by others. They cannot finish their report without congratulating the Society upon the marked improvement in the number and quality of Devons and Jersey cattle.

*Judges*—Chas. B. Calvert, Chairman; James T. Earle, John McGowan, Robert Dick.

The show of horses was fine, and to prove how the Society had influenced the improvement in breeding fine horses, and awakened the farmers to a just conception of

this branch of agriculture, the Committee in their report, say of the two year old colts: "after a minute examination, we believe that for the number, such a superior collection of colts of this age, have never been exhibited at the same time on any fair ground in the United States."

It was at this fair that Mr. J. Jacob Bowers distinguished himself as a poultry fancier, by exhibiting an immense collection of a great variety of the choicest breeds of poultry and game birds, and rare singing and other birds. It is here to be noted that a disease prevalent with poultry, called "hen fever," was it what has since been called "chicken cholera," so fatal to fowls all over the country?

There was an immense display of machinery, and all premiums were money premiums; there were no certificates or diplomas. The latter awards are more sought after by patentees and drummers for the sale of agricultural implements than money premiums, because they are more available as recommendations to their articles. The practice of granting diplomas, because they cost less than medals, has wrought much injury to the public. Committees often unthinkingly award a diploma for a machine, when they would not award a \$1.00 premium for it, and yet that diploma, because it costs nothing and will gratify the exhibitor, will do more to impose upon the public than ten premiums of a dollar each. Let the Societies of the present, be as wise in their generation, as was that model society of Maryland, whose history we are recording, was, in its day.

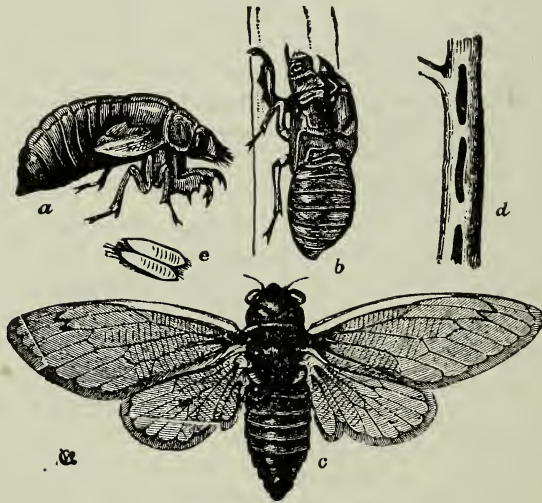
WHAT IS MEANT BY AN INCH OF RAIN:—Few people can form a definite idea of what is involved in the expression—an inch of rain. It may aid such to follow this calculation. An acre is equal to 6,272,640 square inches; an inch deep of water on this area will be as many cubic inches of water, which at 277,274 to the gallon is 22, 622, 5 gallons. This quantity weighs 226, 225 lbs., or 100,93 tons. One hundredth of an inch (0.01) of rain is equal to one ton per acre.



## ENTOMOLOGY.

THE PERIODICAL CICADA *alias* "SEVENTEEN YEAR LOCUST."—The present year will be marked by a quite extended appearance of this interesting insect, both a seventeen and a thirteen year brood simultaneously appearing. The readers of the NATURALIST are doubtless familiar with the habits and natural history of *Cicada septemdecim*, Linn., and those of the thirteen year race (*C. tredecim*, Riley.) which agree with it in every respect except in the time required for full development.

The last simultaneous appearance of these two broods was in 1660, and their appearance the present year will doubtless enable us to perfect our knowledge of the geographical range of either. Already we have received undoubted indications of their early ascension, as the pupæ have been reported either near or upon the surface of the ground in several of the localities indicated.



*Cicada Septemdecim*; a, pupa; b, pupa shell; c, perfect insect; d, twig with egg punctures, nat. size; e, eggs, enlarged. (After Riley.)

It will be observed that the thirteen year brood is by far the most extended, and that it occurs very generally throughout the Southern States, both east and west of the Mississippi. We have gathered to gether since the last appearance of this brood, in 1868, various facts which extend its range in Georgia and Tennessee, and which show that it also occurs in restricted parts of Indiana.

We shall be very glad to receive detailed information of the exact limits of either of these two breeds, or indeed, any record of the appearance of the insects the present year, and these records will be all the more valuable if the years of earlier appearances in the same localities can also be furnished. Information on these points should be sent to the editor of this department. Address Prof. C. V. Riley, Washington, D. C., who is editor of the Entomological Department.—

A FRENCH journal says that if chloride of lime be spread on the soil, or near plants, insects and vermin will not be found near them. By its means plants will be easily protected from the insect plagues by simply brushing over their stems a solution of it. It has often been noticed that a patch of land which has been treated in this way, remains religiously respected by grubs, while the unprotected beds around are literally devastated. Butterflies, again, will avoid all plants whose leaves have been sprinkled over with lime water.

**Manurial Values of Fodder Materials.**

From the careful and elaborate experiment made by Sam'l. L. Dana it appears that an average cow, kept on a daily ration of twenty-four pounds of hay and 15½ pounds of potatoes, will yield, in addition to her liquid evacuations, over 31,000 lbs. of dung per year containing 189 lbs. of ammonia which, with other included chemical elements, amounts in value to over \$40.

By the same authority it also appears that the liquid manure amounts to over 7,000 lbs. a year, and surpasses the solid dung in value in the ratio of 2 to 1. This makes the total value of the manure more than equal to the entire cost of feeding.

He further states that 1000 lbs. of the cattle urine afford about 8 lbs. of the most powerful salts ever used by farmers. This is equivalent to about 600 lbs. a year of the salts referred to, for each animal.

It is estimated by Prof. Johnson that a ton of clover contains potash, phosphoric acid and nitrogen sufficient to be worth \$17.57 for manure; while a ton of bran or of peas is worth, by the same standard, over \$22.

And some other feed have a still higher manurial value. In the above experiment of Mr. Dana the daily ration of hay was to 4½ tons a year. Now, if this had been clover instead of hay the manurial value per year would have been over \$72, according to Prof. Johnson. These conclusions, resulting as they do from both practical chemical investigation, are further confirmed by the experience of successful farmers. Josiah Quincy, Jr., has found that a good cow, when kept on the soiling system, yields 3½ cords of solid dung per annum, which, by the addition of muck, may be more than doubled, both in quantity and value, and that the liquid manure when absorbed with muck is worth still more than the solid, making an aggregate of more than fifteen cords, worth from \$5 to \$8 a cord. And further it appears that the total manure from each cow, when thus treated, is equivalent on a yearly average to the value of the milk. Joseph Harris who probably knows as much about manures and more about pigs than most farmers, has estimated that he got 41½ cts., worth of manure per week from the pigs that were fed at a cost of 37½ cts., a week, thus showing that the value of the manure covered the whole cost of feeding, and left a net margin of profits besides.

Conrad Wilson.

For the Maryland Farmer.

**NITROGEN.**

*Messrs. Editors.*—I have read the article of Mr. J. B. Lawes, in your June number, with much interest, and as he puts the question, what will A. P. S. have to say to his proposition, I propose to tell through your columns, what I have told him more than once, in a private way. I am glad he has stated his views in such a plain manner after the result of so many years of close and expensive experiments, many of which have been of great benefit in promoting agricultural science. To differ with one so eminently qualified to judge of what he writes, requires at least, some boldness, if I may not say impertinence and conceit, but I am happy to say that such is not my case. On the contrary, I fully agree and have for years, as your readers and yourselves, especially know, that I have always claimed that plants obtain their nitrogen from the stored up supply in the soil, obtained from the air, hence, the absurdity of applying it in the form of offensive, decaying animal matter, as has been done for years, impressing the farmer with the idea, the more offensive to the nose, the better fertilizer. This idea, I am glad to say, is fast passing away, finding a resting place where many other equally foolish ones are found, in the heads of old fogies, whose octogenarian locks act as a non-conductor to progress or modern science.

The question Mr. Lawes puts me is, "whether the total amount of nitrogen which can be carried off in crops, can exceed the actual quantity contained in the soil that grows them. Taking it for granted, as Mr. L. states, that the plants take their nitrogen through the roots, I say, without hesitation, the plants cannot take away more than is found there, but I claim there is an inexhaustible supply, and on this point I may differ with Mr. L. All that is necessary is to have a *soil*, not merely chemically, *i. e.* with all the elements, such as phosphoric acid, potass., lime, &c., but a soil that is in such a condition that air and water circulate freely, and I am sure all movable elements will be supplied to act in harmony with the fixed ones as mentioned above, and if the latter are there, plants must grow; but if absent, they must be supplied either by the hand



of man, or in a neutral way, as is done by the overflowing streams depositing its sediment of mineral matter, obtained from the washing of the rocks.

A soil of the nature described, with the remains of organic life in it, contains, according to the analysis of the great Liebig, a thousand times more nitrogen than is necessary for a full crop to call upon, instead of begging existence from old shoes, tankage, decaying blood, cracklins, rotten fish, and every other quarternary compound that can be picked up and recommended to farmers because of its odor. To obtain a soil possessed with the necessary condition to grow the maximum crops the presence of organic matter or rather the remains of organic matter must be present in the shape of charcoal, or as some call it *humus, geine*, &c., but to be clear to the reader I call it vegetable mould. To obtain this it is not necessary to apply quarternary organic matter—that is, organic matter containing nitrogen, but ternary organic matter, three elements, carbon, hydrogen and oxygen—which compose the greater portion of the matter alluded to, and to obtain this, the quickest, surest and cheapest manner, is to get something to grow on the worn out land, and when in a ripe condition turn it under, let it be clover, weeds, buckwheat, oats, &c., and when this is done you are in a fair way of soon having a soil that will grow wheat, the highest order of plants and the greatest consumer of nitrogen.

Mr. Lawes, in his communication of last month, states that after the removal of a crop of clover, more nitrogen was found in the upper soil, with no evidence of any decrease in the lower, yet there was undoubtedly a considerable amount of nitrogen removed in the ripened clover contained in that portion of it represented by its quarternary matter. Surely this looks as if Mr. Lawes' land was in proper trim and there was a constant absorption of nitrogen going on to supply the loss taken off by the growing crops, and this is just what I have always claimed. Surely, I have nothing to dispute with him, and am only too glad to agree with one who I esteem so highly, and whose opinion I have such a high regard for. I am now collecting testimony in regard to the effect of unammoniated fertilizers on worn out lands, that will astonish those like Mr. Lawes,

who thinks that the cultivation of lands exhaust the nitrogen. In conclusion, I must repeat the oft told story to those who own worn out land, get a soil, *i. e.* vegetable mould, and the shortest cut to it is by turning under any growing plants, which, when they decay, leaves the mould so necessary to absorb and retain moisture and gases. When this result is obtained, apply the needed mineral elements, and with proper use of elbow oil, the shaver, and in turn the sheriff will have no use for you.

Rock Hall, Md.

A. P. S.

---

## POULTRY HOUSE.

---

For the Maryland Farmer.

### The Plymouth Rock.

Nearly every season we see new breeds of fowls brought prominently to the notice of the public, and to judge from the merits claimed for them it would seem that human skill could go no farther in poultry breeding. It is well to take such things with "a few grains of allowance," and not invest too heavily until their merits have been tested by practical and disinterested parties. Skill in breeding has however produced a breed which has time and again proved itself to be all that any reasonable person can wish, and that breed is the famous Plymouth Rocks. There are, no doubt, other breeds of poultry, such as the brahmas, cochins, leghorns, &c., which will return better results in *special* cases or for *special purposes*, but for a *general purpose* fowl, the Plymouth Rocks, in their purity, are not excelled by any other none known breed, and we do not know that they are yet equalled. They make good sized though not mammoth birds, are easily reared, feathering up quickly, are good layers of large eggs, and lay especially well in the winter and early spring, at a time when eggs command a paying price, last winter eggs commanding as high as 50 cents per dozen in some of our large cities. E.

---

GAPES.—Gapes scarcely ever trouble a clean and dry yard, and the free use of carbolic disinfecting powder is an almost certain preventive, and on this as every other account, very desirable where chickens are reared in large number. When the disease



however, has entered the yard, it may be checked in its progress by adding fluid carbolate camphor, or even lime to the drinking water. The sufferers themselves should be forced to inhale the vapor of carbolic acid. Some of the clear, transparent quality may be placed in a spoon or metal saucer, and held over a candle or lamp, when dense white fumes of the acid will arise. In this the chicken's head is to be immersed till the bird is nearly suffocated, or if a large number have to be treated, the whole may be confined in a box and fumigated at once, being carefully watched through an aperture covered with a piece of glass, else the chickens will be killed as well as the worms. This treatment is absolutely unfailing. The vapor from sulphur burnt is also tolerably effective, but far from equal to that of the carbolic acid.—*Wright's Book on Poultry.*

---

HOW TO KEEP EGGS.—Take one pint of fresh slacked lime, one half pint of common salt, mix well in three gallons of cold water. Put the eggs in every day as you gather them; they will sink to the bottom of the vessel. A ten gallon wine keg is a convenient sized vessel to make the brine in; you can reach to the bottom of it without dropping the eggs on each other and breaking them. M. H. J.

---

SURE CURE FOR ROUP.—Take one ounce tincture ginger and three ounces castor oil; mix, and give the fowl one teaspoonful, three times a day, keeping the fowl in a warm, dry place. This is very simple, but nevertheless a sure cure.

Yours, &c.,

T. W. SPAFFORD.

*New Southern Poultry Journal.*

---

TO FATTEN GEESE.—Shut up three or four geese in a dark place and give them one pound of oats, each, per day. Scatter the oats on the water which is furnished daily in a large pan. In 14 days they will become very fat. Never shut up one geese by itself, it will pine away, as they are very sociable and love company.

---

Ohio holds dogs responsible for the death of 23,629 sheep in one year, and injury of 28,700—equal to a money loss of \$140,000.

WASHINGTON, May 11th, 1881.

*Mr. Whitman.*—The season seems to have more than made up for all the lateness of the spring. The thermometer, to-day, is at 90° F. in the shade. Apple blossoms and even the peach blossoms which come after them, have matured and shed their petals. The whole face of nature is beautiful, and while "every prospect pleases, only man is vile."

I was both interested and instructed in what I saw at the Agricultural Department. The samples of tea which were grown in the United States, last year, are all fine. Commissioner Le Duc has a sample of coffee, also grown in the South, which promises well for the future. And then his samples of sugar from corn sorghum and beets, is the pledge that we are soon to reduce our expenses for imported sugars.

At the Navy Yard I saw Prof. Baird's Fish egg hatching in operation. It was working on shad, whose eggs were in motion by the current of water running through the inverted cones arranged for the purpose. I had to put on my spectacles to see the young herrings, they were so small and so transparent.

I again visited the Washington Monument and found the new foundation complete under the old. It took 10,000 barrels of cement, and as many of sand. With each barrel of cement and sand was mixed eleven wheelbarrow loads of pebbles and broken stone. In putting all this under, the engineers claim to have straightened a lean of one quarter of an inch in the column 170 feet high.

W. W. MEECH.

---

Speaking of Governors suggests the mention of an item we received from Mr. Henry A. Knight, Foreman at Chas. Waters & Co.'s Governor and Valve Works, Boston, Mass.: I have used St. Jacobs Oil among our employees and find that it never fails to cure. The men are delighted with the wonderful effects of the Oil, as it has cured them of bruises, burns, &c.—*New Albany Ledger-Standard.*

---

Try the MARYLAND FARMER for the next six months for 50 cents. You will be so attached to it in that time, that you will send your subscription in for next year,

# MARYLAND FARMER

A STANDARD MAGAZINE,

DEVOTED TO

Agriculture, Horticulture and Rural Economy.

EZRA WHITMAN, Editor,

COL W. W. W. BOWIE, Associate Editor,

141 WEST PRATT STREET,

BALTIMORE, MD.

BALTIMORE, JULY 1st, 1881.

## TERMS OF SUBSCRIPTION

ONE DOLLAR A YEAR IN ADVANCE.

## TERMS OF ADVERTISING

	1 Mo.	3 Mo.	6 Mo.	1 Year.
One Square, 10 lines.....	\$ 1.50	\$ 4.00	\$ 7.00	\$ 12.00
Quarter Page.....	6.50	15.00	23.50	35.00
Half Page.....	12.00	25.00	40.00	70.00
One Page.....	20.00	45.00	75.00	120.00

☞ Special rates for cover pages.

☞ Transient Advertisements payable in advance.

☞ Advertisements to secure insertion in the ensuing month should be sent in by the 20th of the month.

## TO ADVERTISERS!

The large circulation of the Maryland Farmer makes it one of the best mediums for advertisers of all classes. Its circulation will be largely increased by our reduction in the Subscription Price, and hence add to its advantages as a medium for advertisers. The terms of advertising will remain as heretofore.

THE MARYLAND FARMER is now read by more Farmers, Planters, Merchants, Mechanics and others interested in Agriculture, than any other magazine which circulates in the Middle or Southern States, and therefore is the best medium for advertisers who desire to extend their sales in this territory

☞ We call attention to our Reduction in Price of Subscription.

## TERMS.

One Copy, one year in advance,	\$ 1 00
Club Rates, 5 copies one year in advance	4 00
" " 10 " " " "	7 50
" " 20 " " " "	14 00
" " 50 " " " "	32 50
" " 100 " " " "	60 00

Subscription Price for One Year, if not paid in advance, will be at the old rate, \$1 50 per year, and positively no deduction.

## SPECIAL PREMIUMS

For those who may Canvass for New Subscribers.

Any person who sends us 100 Subscribers, at \$1.00, will receive the world-renowned Howe Sewing Machine, with all the latest improvements. Value, \$50.00.

Any person who sends us 80 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive 1 Young America Corn and Cob Mill, worth \$40.00.

Any person who sends us 50 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive 1 of the celebrated Wheat Fans, which has taken nearly 200 premiums. Value, \$28.00.

Any person who sends us 25 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive a Roland Plow. Value, \$12.00.

Any person who sends us 15 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive a Farm Bell. Value, \$6.00.

Any person who sends us 6 Subscribers, at \$1.00 each, will receive a Nickel-Plated Revolver, Long Fluted Cylinder. Value \$2.50.

THESE ARTICLES WE WARRANT TO BE FIRST-CLASS.

☞ It will not be necessary to secure the subscribers all at one time. For instance, if any one wants the Mill we offer for 80 new subscribers, he can send the names in any number he chooses, and we will allow him a whole year to finish the club.

☞ COL. D. S. CURTIS, of Washington, D. C., is authorized to act as Correspondent and Agent to receive subscriptions and advertisements for the MARYLAND FARMER, in the District of Columbia Maryland and Virginia.

☞ Our friends can do us a good turn by mentioning the MARYLAND FARMER to their neighbors, and suggesting to them to subscribe for it.

### Premiums to Subscribers to the "Maryland Farmer."

This number begins the half year of the present volume of the MARYLAND FARMER, and hence it is a good time to subscribe, so as to begin with the July number. As an extra inducement we will send, free, as a premium, to each new subscriber during the year, either one of the following valuable books he may select: "Curtis' Wheat Culture," "Fisher's Grain Tables," "Kendall's Horse Book," or "Scribner's Lumber and Log Book."

Either of these books are worth to the farmer, more than the price of our journal, and by enclosing *only One Dollar*, the MARYLAND FARMER will be sent one year, and either of the books selected, free of postage.

### Also Works of Art—Free.

Any new subscriber who sends \$1.50 will receive the MARYLAND FARMER for one year, and his choice of either one of the splendid pictures as advertised in this number, with miniature wood cuts, which, however, give only a poor idea of the beauty of the engravings in the new style of art, which far surpass any chromo as objects of art. Any person sending \$2.00 will get the Farmer and both pictures as advertised. This liberal offer is also extended to every old subscriber who pays up his arrears and adds thereto 50 cents for one picture, or one dollar for the two.

"Everything worthy of the name of *Picture*, has a soul and body. Canvass, paper, color or contour are the one; the idea that shines through them and invests them with life and glory and reality is the other. Where the soul is wanting, however perfect the body, the picture does not speak pleasantly to the soul of the beholder. The works of art we offer our readers are full of 'soul,' enshrined in good body."

### Agricultural Fairs for 1881.

MARYLAND STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The clever Secretary, Mr. T. B. Dorsey, informs us that the officers and executive committee of the Maryland State Agricultural Society have been industriously engaged in making out a premium list and other arrangements for a splendid exhibition this year. The Fair will commence Wednesday, October 26th, and continue four days.

The new railroad which now runs directly to the grand stand on the grounds, will afford ample, cheap and comfortable facilities to reach the Fair, the want of which has heretofore prevented thousands from attending the meetings of this association. This, together with the new life which seems to have lately been infused in the members, will insure a successful show and immense crowds of visitors. Many new and attractive features will be introduced, and a large sum has been appropriated to premiums. It is to be hoped that every farmer in the State, who has an animal fit for exhibition, will begin now to prepare it for the coming State Fair.

Every farmer, gardener, florist and horticulturist will endeavor to exhibit specimens of their industry and skill. We trust that the ladies will begin now, and continue during the season to preserve, pickle, can, make butter and prepare needle work and other household productions for competition, and by their presence, with the evidences of their taste and beautiful handiwork, grace this coming fair. After all, it is lovely woman that imparts dignity and charming attraction to these festivals of the farmers, and make them successful in all those essentials that draw together large crowds of the sterner sex. Let the daughters of Maryland all over the State, make a generous effort, and this society will again flourish as it did in days of yore, when it was surpassed by no State in its annual fairs.



THE INTERNATIONAL COTTON EXPOSITION, Oglethorpe Park, Atlanta, Ga., will open on the 5th of October and continue until the 31st of December. *The only World's Fair of the year.* Judging from the enterprise and magnificent proportions this enterprise has already assumed, we conclude it must be a grand triumph for the South. The cheapness of travel, the delightful season of the year for Southern travel, the great inducements held out for the comfort and pleasure of all visitors, by this noble effort on the part of the South, must draw together a vast throng of people from our own wide-spread borders, as well as from foreign lands, and make this Exposition the most successful in all respects of any International Fair that has ever been held. Many of its features are different from those which characterized others that have been held in Europe or the United States. While the cotton plant will be paramount, showing it from the seed, through its various changes during cultivation, gathering, and manufacture into the finest fabrics, and all its manifold uses for the wants and comfort of man and beast, and even its reproductive powers as plant food and a renovator of the soil, other industries of the South will be fully illustrated at this great Fair which the cotton planters of the south, and manufacturers everywhere, will upon so large a scale provide for the instruction and gratification of the thousands who may visit it during its continuance. Much will depend upon the liberality that may be displayed as inducements for exhibitors of articles that will necessarily be expensive in transportation.

We have received from our friend, R. W. L. Raisin, Esq., a large and handsome colored lithograph, showing the location of the many buildings, and how the grounds are laid off, with the track and roads and walks. It looks superb on paper, and will be grand if the plan is, as it no doubt will be, carried out.

### American Pomological Society.

#### EIGHTEENTH SESSION.

The Massachusetts Horticultural Society having invited the American Pomological Society to hold its next meeting at Boston, the undersigned give notice that the Eighteenth Session of this National Association will be held in that city, commencing Wednesday, September 14th, 1881, at 10 o'clock, A. M., and continuing for three days.

This session will take place at the time of the Annual Exhibition of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, which is expected to be of unusual excellence, and will give additional interest to the occasion.

All Horticultural, Pomological, Agricultural and other kindred Associations in the United States and British Provinces, are invited to send delegations as large as they may deem expedient; and all persons interested in the cultivation of fruits are invited to be present and take seats in the Convention.

This session will be held at the home of its president, where, after an interval of years, occasioned by ill health and a serious accident, he hopes to have the pleasure of meeting, not only his old friends, but others from the various sections of our country, and again to unite heart and hand with friends for the promotion of the objects of the society.

Intending contributors—whether as States, societies or individuals, will oblige by giving notice as far as possible, and at an early date, what quantity they propose to exhibit. Three specimens of a variety will be sufficient, except in fruits of special interest. Each contributor is requested to prepare a complete list of his fruits, that a report of all the varieties entered may be submitted to the meeting as early as practicable. A liberal number of Wilder Medals will be awarded to objects of special merit.

Packages of fruits, with the name of the contributors, may be addressed as follows; "American Pomological Society, Boston, care of Massachusetts Horticultural Society." Freight and express charges should be prepaid.

MARSHALL P. WILDER, Pres. Boston, Mass.  
ROBERT MANNING, Sec., Salem, Mass.

The 29th INDIANA STATE FAIR will be held at Indianapolis, Sept. 26 to Oct. 1st. Competition free to the world for its long list of liberal premiums.

THE FIRST ANNUAL EXHIBITION of the Milwaukee, Wis. Industrial Exposition, begins the 6th of September, and ends on 15th of October.

The 41st ANNUAL FAIR of the New York State Agricultural Society will be held at Elmira, Sept. 12th to 17th.

EDWIN ALDEN & BRO'S NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING AGENCY, of Cincinnati.—We are pleased to be informed by their card that the business of this reliable firm has so increased that they have had to remove from 174 Elm street, to their present commodious house on 5th and Vine streets, where they have now two floors, each 100 by 70 feet, giving them greater facilities for their increasing and extensive business.

MR. EDWARD B. EMORY, Centreville, Md., has sold to Hon. Frederick Stump, Elkton, two Short horn heifers, 1½ and 4 months old, for \$125 and \$100 respectively.

Tri-State Picnic and Exhibition will be held at William's Grove, Cumberland county, Pennsylvania, on 29th, 30th, 31st of August, and 1st and 2d of September. Manufacturers and dealers in machinery, etc., wanting prominent positions on the grounds, must apply before the 15th of July.

REMARKABLE!—Col. J. J. DeForest, in his report to the *Country Gentleman* of the Short-horn sales at west Liberty, Iowa, makes the following statement of a very remarkable fact.

"One very unusual lot came into the ring, viz., a cow with twin yearlings—one, a pure short-horn, and the other as black as night, by a pure Holstein bull, having been served by the separate males, two weeks succeeding each other."

#### A Large Egg.

Mr. Thomas Ross, on Catonsville Avenue, Baltimore County, Md., brought to our office lately a remarkable egg, which accurately measured 8½ inches circumference the long way, and 7 inches circumference the other way, and weighed 5 ounces. Who can beat this? The hen that laid this egg is of mixed breed, medium size, and is in the habit of laying large eggs with two yolks.

#### Von Laer's Perfect Binder.

Our thanks are due to Mr. E. L. Lambie, sole manufacturer and agent, Washington, D. C., for a specimen of Perfect Binder, which fits the Maryland Farmer exactly. The Binder is made to suit all sizes of papers, magazines, manuscripts, scrap-books, etc. It is the most convenient, complete and satisfactory, and cheapest Binder we have ever seen. The price is so low that every body can have one without much outlay. To all professional men, literary men, merchants and private persons who desire to retain papers, or letters, or documents in book form, a binder is always a convenience, and this one without doubt, supplies the great want of the public.

#### Our Frontispiece.

We call attention to the beautiful colored illustration of the new white "Pocklington Grape," that is given in this number as a Frontispiece. This grape has lately been introduced to the public, after having been well tested. We feel confident from what is said of it by the most eminent pomologists, that no grape of greater merit, all things considered, has ever been before offered for sale in this country. Mr. Purdy, of the "Fruit Record," says, "it is undoubtedly a splendid grape," and it has the commendations of many other distinguished pomological scientists and fruit growers, such as the venerable Wilder, Messrs. Ellwanger and Barry, Meehan,

Hooker, and others of this country, and Rev'd R. Burnett, of Canada. A fine white grape has long been wanted by consumers, and now we have it. Every grape grower in the country—should procure one or more specimens of this vine, and propagate it until our tables everywhere, will offer this beautiful and superior fruit to the lovers of the grape.

#### **The Coming Great Sheep Sales in Maryland.**

Our genial and enterprising friend, Gen'l Meem, gave us a pleasant call last week and imparted the gratifying fact that he was about doing for Maryland what he has successfully done for Virginia for the last two years, which is to inaugurate a new departure in stock growing, and for the benefit of all who desire to engage in that profitable business. He contemplates having a large sale of South-down and Cotswold sheep at Hagerstown, about the fourteenth of August to be followed up about the twenty-fourth of same month at the new Baltimore Stock Yards in this city. Due notice of these sales will be given next month in the Maryland Farmer as to the exact time and character of stock to be sold. The General offers his own raising with the best he can procure from Canada and the great stock State of Kentucky. In these sales breeders of sheep come together, confer, and have the opportunity to secure the choicest specimens of those breeds that are offered, and they know when they buy, that what they get is well worth all they pay for them; it is not like at private sales, "buying a pig in a bag." We do hope our sheep growers will generally attend these sales, and show by their presence that encouragement, so well deserved by such a laudable enterprise.

President P. Barry, of the Western New York Horticultural Society, "prefers pure red-top for the lawn instead of a mixture of grass seed."

#### **The U. S. Commissioner of Agriculture.**

The Hon. Geo. B. Loring, will this month enter upon the duties of the office of United States Commissioner in place of General LeDuc, who has heretofore held the position with great credit to himself and usefulness to the public. While we regret that General LeDuc has lost the opportunity to prosecute to satisfactory results the grand efforts of his administration—the profitable production of sugar from corn, and sorghum, and the feasibility of growing tea in this country to meet the wants of our people—we are pleased that the President in making a new appointment, has selected a gentleman so well-known in the land as a scholar, a practical and theoretical farmer, a man of extensive reputation for learning, ability, administrative talents and high integrity. At the same time, that we regret the absence of the enthusiastic, earnest and bold champion of the rights of farmers—Gen'l LeDuc—we are glad to see that his place has been filled by one who has always been, and still is alive to the best interest of the farmer, and will employ his ablest efforts to the advancement and promotion of the welfare of agriculture.

#### **Publications Received.**

Part 22 of The Illustrated Book of the Dog, published by Cassell, Petter, Galpin & Co., Broadway, New York., lies on our table. This admirable work now publishing in parts at 40 cents a part, ought to be purchased by every owner of well-bred dogs in the country. It is prepared by Vero Shaw, assisted by all the leading breeders of the day, and each number is fully illustrated with fine wood-cuts and a splendid coloured engraving of a portrait from life. The work when completed, will contain the life likeness of a choice specimen of every distinct breed of dogs that have been bred for two hundred or more years past.



## Our North Carolina Trip.

During the last week of May, we made a little tour, comprising about 800 miles in a circuit, part the distance by land and part by water. We left Baltimore in the Bay Line Steamer, "North Carolina"—one of the most substantial and comfortable steamers afloat. The table on this boat differs from that of the Carrollton and other first-class hotels, in that it offers all the variety and excellence of food at supper, as the best hotels offer during the three daily meals. On board one of these boats a person feels as safe and comfortable as if he was in a first-class city hotel.

On arriving at Old Point we stepped into the Hygeia Hotel and was met by Mr. Phoebus, the proprietor with the kind salutation "welcome home again," and indeed it is home to the traveler. The location, comforts and all the surroundings make the place delightful to all visitors, who always look the happiest crowd imaginable. After tarrying here a few days, we went over to Norfolk and took the train for Newbern.

On reaching Weldon we stopt one hour for dinner, but we got through our Weldon dinner in time to allow us before the hour expired to give a hasty glance at the place and to compare what I saw, with my recollection of the place forty years ago when I passed through the town, in a stage coach. Weldon has certainly improved and grown in size, but is not yet a New York or a London. We saw nothing peculiarly interesting or striking.

We reached Goldsboro, not until four o'clock, and our train failed to make the connection with the train that goes to Newbern, so we had to lay over twenty-four hours. This delay gave an opportunity to inspect the town, which we found to be a live, bright and prosperous one. Some of the most active and thrifty merchants in North Carolina carry on extensive business here. The town is growing and improving as fast, or faster than any other along the entire route of this railroad. We made a hurried but pleasant call at the office of the "Messenger," the editor of which, seems to monopolize the entire printing of the town, such is his popularity and enterprise. He has made the Messenger one of the best weeklies in the State.

At Newbern we made our chief stay

and was repaid for our journey by enjoying the hospitable society of its citizens, and admiring the beauty of the ancient city and its surroundings. Newbern has a very interesting history, from which we learn that it was settled by Swiss and German Palatines in 1710, and named for the Canton of "Berne," in Switzerland. It was incorporated as a Town in 1723, with a population of 200; and as a City, in 1865, population, 5,700. The Colonial State Legislature for 1738 met at New Bern, and was the first legislative session held in that town. In 1749, Jas. Davis, a Virginian, brought a printing press to Newbern and started the first newspaper ever published in the State, it was a weekly called "North Carolina Gazette." The first public school house in the State was erected in this city in 1764, in which the legislature occasionally held its meetings. The antiquity of the place impresses at once the visitor. Yet there are evidences of modern improvements in the new buildings, in the activity of business, and the growing prosperity of its rapidly increasing population. Around Newbern there are a large number of farms, some very large, devoted to fruit, and the growing of early vegetables for northern markets. This year has been so seasonable, that a super-abundance of crops have been grown which will reduce the prices so much, as to be disheartening to the truckers.

### How to advance the Trucking Interest of the Country.

While at Newbern, we were agreeably surprised to find a large canning factory in full operation. They were canning at the time green peas. We learned as many as five-hundred hands finds employment in shelling peas, opening oysters, etc., etc. The Peas they are now canning are the surplus stock raised by the Truckers around Newbern, which are too late for shipping north; and without this establishment every bushel of the peas they are now canning would have been lost to the Truckers. The advantage of having canning establishments at points were the peas are raised was fully demonstrated to us that we now call the attention of Charleston, Savannah and Florida to the advantages they might derive by putting up these establishments. The expense of putting them up is small in comparison to the advantages gained. In addition to saving

the surplus stock, (which is now literally thrown away) another great advantage would be that one section would not interfere with another in selling early peas. For instance, as soon as Florida found it unprofitable to ship early peas, she would stop shipping and go to canning, and instead of having a glut of her late peas in the northern markets, she would have them in her canning factory, and thus leave a clear market for Savannah, who comes in a little later. Savannah would then can her surplus and leave a clear market for Charleston, and Charleston the same way for Newbern. As it now stands there is a surplus stock each season from the points designated, which makes a glut in the northern markets and causes peas to be sold at ruinous prices.

It can all be obviated by putting up a halt dozen or more of factories at the above points. Newbern and Norfolk each have theirs, and we hope before another summer rolls around, to see a number of others started.

The whole country was looking beautiful, and the crops growing in the immense fields were fine. One gentleman—Mr. J. L. Rhem—told me he had one-hundred acres in early potatoes, which, he expected to yield 4,000 barrels, and they would be gathered the early part of June and shipped off in time for the land to be planted in cotton with an almost certainty of bringing a good crop of cotton in time for gathering before the frost. Two heavy staple crops on same land in one year. What a blessed clime! Fields embracing many acres had ripened their crops of early peas, (which crop we regret to say was this year, rather a failure, owing to the season or some other cause,) and the vines were ready to be turned under as a green fertilizer. Other vegetables were coming on rapidly in succession, to be sent to Baltimore, New York and Boston markets, besides other markets in the north and west. Vast quantities of fertilizers are sold in the State, and farmers are making the "old North State" one of the most independent of the sisterhood of States. There seems to be a solidity in the business circles that indicates a flourishing agriculture.

After spending several pleasant days at Newbern we returned to Baltimore, by water, taking the Inland Navigation route. We thus had a delightful tour by land and water. We cannot close this letter without

expressing our thanks to Messrs. J. L. Rhem, J. M. Kilburn, George Allen and to the worthy host of the "Central Hotel," Mr. W. E. Patterson for their kind attention. We also met an old acquaintance, Mr. W. H. Oliver, who showed us much kindness, and imparted very interesting information as to the future out-look of the city and its adjacent country. W.

For the Maryland Farmer.

#### Crop Prospects in Clarke Co., Va.

In this region a number of heavy rains prostrated much wheat. I hope most of it will get up, if so, and not injured by it or rust, good crops will be made.

As to the corn—"winter lingering so long in the lap of spring," the rains forced the farmer into unusual lateness in his preparations—in former times, when pressed in this way, would (what they called) list, *i. e.*—plough two furrows each way, proper distances for planting, and plant the corn in the cross—and after, break up the rest of the field. This, our farmers do not fancy, and stuck to it, although interrupted by rain often—they bravely stuck to the plow, until at last, though late, they succeeded in planting, but here another disaster—the seed they planted did not vegetate; many entire fields had to be planted over, and but very few stood as well as usual—then to re-plant while thinning, with rain interruptions, makes it so very late that but little, in many cases, no cultivation can be given it before harvest. Heretofore, three ploughings were given it before harvest, being considered perilous to work it afterwards, but this year its cultivation must be after, its lateness will remove the peril—but another peril awaits it—if not ripened before a frost, it may be destroyed, and the loss of a corn crop would be one of the greatest disasters that could befall an agricultural community. I suppose the seed corn had not ripened enough in the shock, when the hard weather destroyed its vegetating quality; farmers ought to be particular in ripening their seed of all kinds.

I have heretofore suggested a turnip or root crop, by farmers owning sheep—fed to them during snow would doubtless save many lives. A homely old saying:

"Sow, fifteenth of July,  
Turnips will come, wet or dry."

June, 1881. J. W. WARE, Berryville, Va.



## HORTICULTURAL.

For the Maryland Farmer.

### The Vegetable Garden.

Number Three.

Having made a thorough preparation of soil, both by the addition of fertility and the pulverization of the same, as soon as natural conditions will allow, the planting of seeds of the mere hardy vegetables may be commenced. This time varies with the latitude, difference of soil, etc., which is to be taken into account by each individual. In Connecticut, except upon very dry, warm and sandy soils, but little can be done in gardening, as a general rule, before about the first of May, and yet it is frequently the case, that, as the frost leaves the ground, a little patch is prepared in which is planted, a few early Irish potatoes, peas, onions, lettuce and some of the more hardy, that will best withstand the cold. It is sometimes said that a frost will not injure the potatoe, or peas, but an instance comes to mind that would conflict with that idea. A few years since Spring gave promise of an early opening, and general farm work was well commenced. The crop of field potatoes had been planted, warm weather continued, and they came up looking well, when a late and severe frost was experienced, and the result was a great injury to the harvest, both in quantity and quality. This was the universal testimony, so it is not best to undertake planting too soon in the hope of having vegetables in advance of the time designed by nature. In the case of Irish potatoes for garden planting, it is far better to bring a few tubers to light, and in a warm room, whereby they get good thrifty sprouts that will immediately set to growing when put in the ground, and be almost as much advanced as if planted at first. In many places the onion being an important field crop, and being planted as soon as the ground is in condition, receives no attention in the garden. Ordinarily but few potatoes would be required in the garden, the main dependence being upon the fields. Therefore, the first planting will have a few potatoes, onions, if desired; peas, lettuce, beets, cabbage, etc. for a first crop. The variety of peas as well as of other vegetables should be selected with reference to the tastes of individuals and the soil on

which they are to be grown. But here comes in a suggestion, the importance of which holds good throughout the entire season, and that is, plant with a view to a full succession so long as desired. The person who will go into a garden, and in a single day, plant the whole to some six or seven varieties of vegetables, of the principal sorts such as potatoes, corn, beans, summer squashes, cucumbers, beets, etc., is an object of pity. To be sure to have a good garden, requires a considerable amount of pains-taking, but there is no labor of the soil that pays better. The planter of course must be his own judge and reap such crops as are most desirable at all times. With the great variety of peas of different periods of arriving at maturity, is such that a sufficient succession almost, can be obtained at one planting; if not, it can be effected at the second time. There are also a class of vegetables that it is unnecessary to enumerate, that are used almost exclusively for greens at first planting, that required a second planting for the mere general and winter use. Therefore, the first named should be planted as early in the season as is admissible, while those last named should be planted much later, so as to form a rapid growth, whereby greater perfection is obtained.

As before suggested, it is not the intention of these articles to make arbitrary suggestions to those desiring good gardens, for taste differs, and all selections of seeds must be made with a view to the wants of the family. The principal object is to encourage an enlargement in this direction and a judicious selection. Specific directions could be gone through with in the case of each vegetable as to the mode of planting and after treatment, but this would only be trespassing upon the domain of dealers, who usually give ample instructions in their catalogues. But it is proper to urge succession. Now for instance, take the case of dwarf or bush beans, planted about the first of May they are fully ripe by the first of July, and dried, ready for harvesting. Instead of a single planting, suppose a few are planted the first of every week from the first of May to the first of July or even later than that, it is plain to be seen that they will be in all their freshness through the season, taking care to harvest as they ripen, thus securing for winter use.



The same rule holds good with regard to sugar or sweet corn. This is considered a very delicious and deserved appendage to every garden, and yet, if planted but once or twice will give no succession. Our practice is and has been to commence planting as soon as the season will admit, and continue to do so each week until about the fourth of July. This gives an ample supply until the time of early frosts. In some instances the late planted will not mature, but it is better to take some risk than to be without this excellent product of the soil.

There is nothing more healthful than good, well ripened vegetables, and for a period of some four or five months in the summer, the support of a family may be very largely drawn from a vegetable garden. But it must be understood that it is not all—to simply plant, success depends very largely upon the subsequent care and attention. If a garden is as rich as it ought to be, if it is not properly cultivated, or does not receive the attention required; weeds will get started and soon choke the growing crop. If the soil can be stirred every day or two, all the better; for the more vigorous will be the growth of all the plants, and as a general rule the better they are. It is to be hoped that these few lines, hastily penned, but with a view to awakening an interest in the direction of better gardens, will accomplish the end aimed at.

WILLIAM H. YEOMANS.

For the Maryland Farmer.

## Horticulture in Maryland up to 1880.

BY JOHN FEAST.

(Concluded from page 185.)

MESSRS, JOHN SMITH, JAMES GALLOWAY and JOHN SHORT, of Waverly; and MR. SCOTT on Chesnut Hill, are all clever florists, who grow large quantities of bedding out-plants and cut flowers for the markets.

MR. OBADIAH KEMP is one of our old respectable florists, living four miles out on the Harford road, and cultivates ten acres in vegetables, trees and shrubbery, with several houses for tender flowering plants, comprising a large and good collection, together with quantities of violets in frames. Mr. Kemp attends the markets

in the proper seasons, particularly in spring, and there sells his cut-flowers and a great many bedding plants, also baskets for flowerers and baskets filled with plants and flowers to suit the demands of his numerous customers.

ANDREW PATTISON resides on the York road beyond Green Mount Cemetery, and raises a large quantity of flowers, chiefly cut-flowers. He cultivates his plants well, which for size few are seldom seen with more flowers; his Fuchias are perfect specimens. He is reticent as to his method of growing plants.

ROBERT PATTISON, and his uncle GILBERT PATTISON, have adjoining places and grow flowers and shrubs for cut-flowers for the market, and also sell to the trade, baskets judiciously filled with the best flowers to grow in them. The latter gentleman deals largely in Tube-roses in pots, that flower well.

F. BOUCHER, at Waverly, has a general collection of plants, having several houses well filled with them, while he cultivates mostly for market. He raises quantities of bedding plants and fills hanging baskets, which cannot but please, as they are neatly and carefully prepared at low rates. The Begonias and Passion-flowers are fine in open grounds.

MR. HASSON has the use of the late Mr. Thomas Winan's fine greenhouses, while his family are in Europe. Mr. H. though a novice, has succeeded beyond expectations, and is getting a nice lot of plants around him. He also sells flowers and plants in the markets.

MR. HESS on Maiden Choice road, HENRY BROMWELL, on Frederick road, west of Loudon Park Cemetery; AUGUST WALTER, at Pimlico; JAMES AUER, near the House of Refuge; and JOHN STEINACHER, on Maiden Choice road, have nice places, and grow flowers and plants as a business.

JOHN COOK, on the Frederick road, now opened by Edmondson avenue, has twenty-seven acres of ground devoted to small fruits, grapes, pears, and flowers, with which he supplies the trade and store on Charles street, at which depot he disposes of both fruits and flowers. His grapes, chiefly Concord and Elmira, are in fine order and bear heavily. They are grown on a hill-side with southern exposure, with a

deep strata of marl and rotten rock. This peculiar soil seems to suit the grape. Mr. Cook is devoted to horticulture, and seems anxious to obtain all the best, new variety of plants to enrich his collection.

MESSRS. LEBRUN and WILLIAM BRENDEL of Highland town, and W. BRUNEL, over the Ferry, Anne Arundel Co., have each good collections of plants and flowers. So too, have C. C. GOSNELL on Madison street, and MR. WALTEBERY, near Waverly.

MR. BOLGIANO, has a snug place near Waverly, where he grows trees, shrubbery and flowering plants, also cabbage, celery, egg, tomato and other vegetable plants, all of which are disposed of at his store on Calvert street near Water street, Baltimore.

MR. WARRICK, on the old road near Waverly, has a small greenhouse where he cultivates successfully plants for his own pleasure. In summer his grounds are gay and bright with blooming plants, kept in nice order. It gives him great satisfaction to spend his leisure hours in thus practically studying and enjoying nature.

MRS. GERHER, living on Newington avenue, cultivates plants and flowers for market, and does an extensive business.

MESSRS. BUCHER, near Waverly; JAS. JOHNSON, on St. Paul street, near the Blind Asylum; MOSHER BROS., near the York road; EICHELBERGER, at Towson town; PRECHT, on Garden street; ELLIS & SON, five miles on the Harford road; JACOB STEDMEYER, four miles on the Harford road; DUDLEY, at Friendship, near Waverly; JAS. GHASTELL, on York road; J. BASLON, at Catonsville; FRED. CRIST, near Mount de Sales; FRED. KRIESS, near the gate of Baltimore cemetery; RICH'D VINCENT, Pratt street; EDWARD KIRKLY, whose office is 295 Lexington street, the old stand of John Feast, Sr.; HEILD, on South Eutaw; KEMP & MILLS, 340 Saratoga Street; SOMERVILLE, on Pennsylvania avenue; and MRS. ROST, on Bel-air road; and MISS STEWART; each and all are engaged in growing, more or less extensively, flowers for the markets.

MR. HENRY EVERHART, has lately commenced business in flower growing, on Garrison lane.

THOS. SUTTON is in possession of Mr. Phillips place, north of the city, grows

flowers, fruit and vegetables, to supply customers at his store on Madison near Biddle street. He has a house for roses, which he raises and sells in quantities to the trade, and one chiefly devoted to Camelias which are fine and choice, and another for vines, from which he gets some good sized bunches of delicious grapes.

JOHN FEAST, SR., the pioneer in horticulture around Baltimore, having commenced business in 1823, and in the following Spring joined his brother Samuel. This partnership was dissolved in 1830, when John, the writer of this essay, went into the business of a florist, extensively on Lexington street where he now resides. He flatters himself that his reputation as an experienced horticulturist is well established in the United States. He has disposed of nearly all of his collections of plants, which at one time and for years, was equal to any in this country. His old age and declining health, prevents him from pursuing any longer the profession he loved so well and still does. In retiring, he fondly hopes, that his place may be filled by one who feels the same ardent interest in the progress of horticulture that he has ever done.

### Notices of Advertisements.

The advertisement of Hon. JNO. MERRYMAN, will attract the attention of cattle breeders. The offer to sell 9 bulls and 7 heifers of his choice Herefords, bred by himself, at Hayfields, is an opportunity which rarely occurs, and should be embraced by everyone who desires to breed this superb class of bovines.

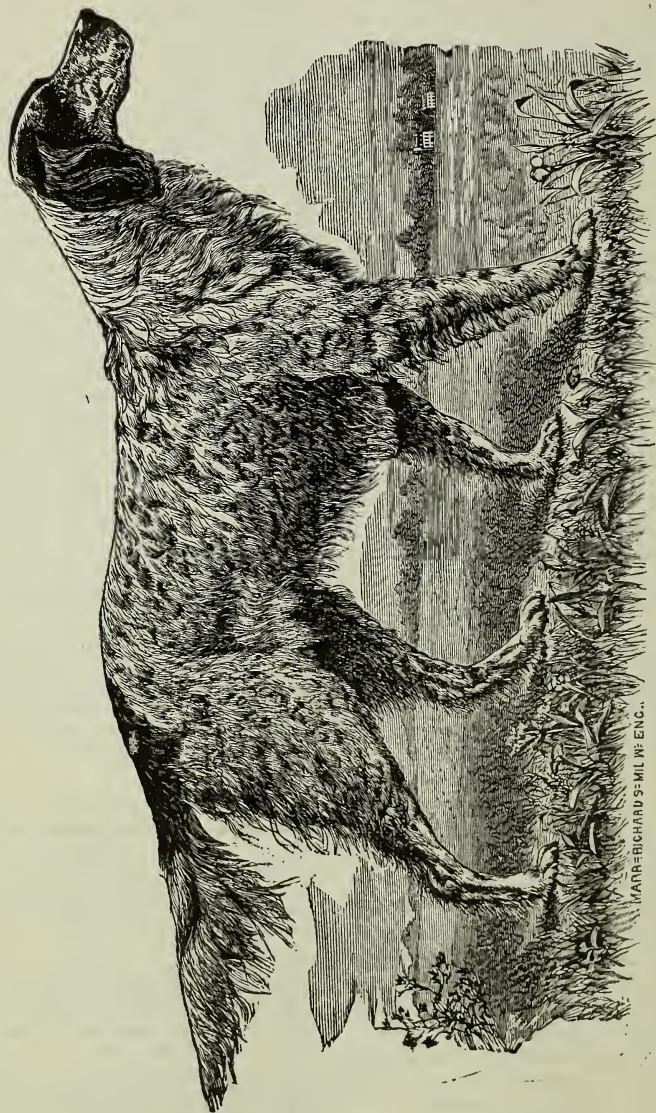
IT IS A FOOLISH MISTAKE to confound a remedy of merit with the quack medicines now so common. We have used Parker's Ginger Tonic with the happiest results for rheumatism and dyspepsia, and when worn out by overwork, and knew it to be a sterling health restorative. *Times*. See advertisement.

We beg to call the reader's attention to the advertisement of DR. HARTER'S IRON TONIC, which will be found in another column. This medicine is a preparation of Iron and Calisaya bark, in combination with the phosphates, and is endorsed by the medical profession, and recommended by them for dyspepsia, general debility, female complaints, want of vitality, etc. It is manufactured by the DR. HARTER MEDICINE COMPANY, No. 213 North Main Street, St. Louis, Mo. It is certainly the most valuable remedy in the market, and no family should fail to keep it in the house.—*Toledo (Ohio) Northern Ohio Democrat*.



## LIVE STOCK REGISTER.

"ROYAL DUKE."



"ROYAL DUKE," the property of Messrs. H. S. and S. C. Magraw, Coloro, Cecil county, Md.



WE are indebted to the Messrs. Magraw for their kind compliance with our request to afford us an opportunity to present our readers with a true portrait of their celebrated English Setter Dog, Royal Duke. The *Chicago Field*, speaking of this splendid animal, says:

"The Messrs. Magraw claimed him at the price, (\$500) his former owner, Mr. Geo. B. Clason had placed him, in the catalogue of the Baltimore Dog Show, and we consider the dog well worth the money as a stud dog, if for nothing else; but he has his value both on the show bench and in the field. Royal Duke is one of the best bred dogs not only in this country, but in the world. His pedigree traces to the bluest of the blue. Indeed, it would be impossible to find a better bred dog."

Royal Duke was the champion of the Philadelphia Dog Show in 1879. It is a subject for congratulation that this famous dog is owned in Maryland, where there are so many splendid specimens of his breed, and also of Irish setters, fox-hounds, collie or shepherd dogs.

There is a growing interest manifested by Maryland gentlemen, in rearing superior dogs of high pedigree in their respective species, which we would encourage, because it is the knell of extinction of the the worthless, sheep stealing curs. Five hundred dollar dogs will never kill sheep, because they are too valuable to be allowed to go abroad without a watchful guardian. As dogs increase in value and consideration, the rights of sheep owners will be respected and the innocent sheep will be safe from molestation and destruction. The Messrs. Magraw breed superior setters and pointers for sale as well as for their own pleasure.

THE PENNSYLVANIA STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY—Will hold its 28th Annual Fair, at Pittsburgh, from the 5th to the 17th of September, in connection with the Pittsburgh Exposition Society. The two societies offer premiums aggregating over \$42,000.

For the Maryland Farmer.

## Winter Management of a Flock of Sheep.

It may seem to be an unseasonable time to treat upon the subject under the above caption, but now being the time to provide feed and prepare generally for their comfort in winter, as well, as for other seasons, it may not be so inopportune after all.

Save all the timothy and clover hay, they will eat from the time grass begins to get scarce in the Fall, till it comes again; prepare, now, as much land for ruta бага turnips as they will also eat during the scarcity of pasture, as well as mangel wurtz, and many other varieties of roots of which they are generally fond. Should there be a scarcity of hay, sow fodder-corn and feed, in a green state, if pasture be short, and just before the stalk hardens, cut down and bind in small bundles for winter stock, say 1 dozen bundles together and let stand till cured; a very good plan is to bind around the top, it will stand an immense amount of exposure if bound up in good order and makes splendid feed, and winter, with its chilling winds, driving rains and drifting snows, guarded also against by good shelters, cannot make the return of light fleeces, poor carcasses and but a few lambs, as is generally the case when there is no such provision made.

We separate our rams and wean our lambs about the 1st of August in order, in the first case, that the ram intended for use shall be got in condition for service, and in the second case, that the ewes may get in better order by September 1st, when we turn the ram with the flock of ewes intended to be bred, they then have had a chance to fatten up, and the ram being strange, are more likely to come in season than if he had been running with them. Notice their bags, after weaning, to guard against gathering, and should there be a tendency in that direction, milk them a little for a few days and keep them on dry feed. Tag the ewes before turning in the ram, and also see that the ram is clear that he may have free access; for many ewes, as also rams, often prove apparently sterile when it is from these causes. We mention September, because we like early lambs, they make larger sheep, bring higher prices, and in many cases are fit to breed the ensuing fall. But for the average far-

mer who is not provided with shelter and feed, it were better to keep the ram away till November, when your lambs will begin to fall the 1st April, and live, if dropped, anywhere around the fields. Early lambs ought to weigh by June, 100 lbs., if fat, but they, as well as late ones, don't grow much, after that, because of hot weather, when they don't feed as they ought to. A very good plan is to shear all such as are intended to be kept as breeders, which should be done as early as June, in order that their new fleece may grow out for the winter. They will improve greatly after shearing, over those which are not. Don't wait till your flock begins to get poor before feeding them, but as soon as pasture begins to fail, then provide yourself with shelters against storms, and feed to each sheep, at night, 1 gill of corn and oats mixed with a little hay, but don't confine them till winter, and then only at night, and against heavy rains and snows, but allow them to shelter themselves at will, which their instincts impel them to do, to their own comfort. Ewes during the period of gestation, naturally require more feed and attention to keep them in proper condition, and should also be kept from the rams, and not over crowded in being fed, or allowed to jump over bars. They should have a partial feed on roots, but it is said, if fed too high on them, their lambs will come soft and limped; but in order to guard against diseases—of which constipation, as your venerable correspondent, Col. Ware says is the principal cause, and I believe him to be right in the majority of cases, they should have enough roots to keep their bowels in an open and healthy condition, when they have not access to a good grass sod, which is actually necessary for the growth, health and prosperity of a flock, and without which, artificial feeds don't amount to much, but if brought into winter in good order, they can be carried through it without loss, but if grass be scant during grazing season and they are poor, there is nothing that can bring them up properly. Crushed corn and cob with a little salt, at first, sprinkled over the roots is a good way to learn them how to eat the roots, of which they become very fond after a while.

Feed your lambs that fell the previous spring, apart from the flock, they being smaller are likely to get knocked out of

the way. Any observant farmer can very well tell when a ewe is about to yean, and it is well to separate such from the others, just before, that the young lamb may not be trampled on. Notice the lamb, to see that it sucks properly, and if it be constipated use an enema; there are more lambs that die from this cause than are generally thought. When they get two or three weeks old, make a pen in the corner of the shelter where they can have access and the old sheep can't, and feed them on chops, bran and oil cake, mixed, and the little fellows will soon get fond of their feed and grow finely, and such as don't seem to thrive well may have a bottle of cows milk given them twice a day. As soon as grass begins to grow, turn your sheep on it, but keep up the grain rations for the lambs till at least a month after they are weaned.

Before turning a flock on young grass in the spring, always tag them, to keep them clean as they are likely to scour. Never allow a lamb to get poor, for it will never make a good sheep. It is surprising to see how fast they grow, if kept fat. I have one lamb, particularly, that I have paid extra attention to, that has gained one pound a day, since his birth; at three months am sure he will go 90 to 100 lbs. But all will not thrive alike in every flock, there are sure to be some puny ones.

Hoping I may not tire your readers on a subject of which I am very fond, I will here say that I shall have for sale next fall, Providence permitting, a splendid lot of young Cotswold ewes, to be bred to the heaviest shearing ram that I know of. Thanking you for the interest you have manifested in my behalf,

I am yours, very truly,

ED. C. LECG.

Kent Island, Md. June 6th, 1881.

---

The subjoined opinion, we perceive is by J. A Daniels, Esq., of Messrs. Stogdill & Daniels, attorneys, *La Crosse Chronicle*: Sometime since, I was attacked with pain in and below one of my knee joints. A few applications of St. Jacobs Oil quieted the pain and relieved the inflammation. I regard it as a valuable medicine.—*Elgin, (Ill.) Daily Leader*.



## LADIES' DEPARTMENT.

### Chats with the Ladies for July.

BY PATUXENT PLANTER.

"July! July! there is a fragrant scent  
Of clover blossoms in the dewy air,  
And wilting grass under the noonday sun;  
And on the hillside where the shadows race,  
The lush green wheat gathers a shade of dun,  
The summer wood shuts in the landscape fair,  
The sky o'erarches like an azure tent.

"The mower's merry click is wafted by  
From the low meadows where the hay is piled  
In fragrant heaps, that in the moon's dim light  
Seems like tented armies in repose.  
No roll of drums shall startle us to-night,  
With sounds of battle and war's cruel woes,—  
Sweet peace, by war and carnage undefiled,  
Rests like a benison upon the sky."

Warm, vigorous, glorious JULY has again come to make his annual visitation, bearing in his hands the ripened harvest of grain and grass, and many fruits. While this month usually brings excessive heat in mid-day to enervate, yet it has its cool mornings and lovely evenings to recover, by refreshing exercises. The physical and mental energies that may have been prostrated, regain their activity as the sun hides his face. The delightful breath of early morn is truly invigorating this month. Before the sun is up, and an hour after, and in the twilight and early hours of night, are the day periods of Summer and Autumn, that the ladies should select for out-door exercises or amusement. The early lady-bird will catch the bloom of youth, and health and beauty.

Horse-back exercise has lately grown into popularity, I am glad to know, and is now much resorted to by little girls as well as grown-up women, both for recreative amusement and as aid to recovery of health. If not carried to excess, it is one of the most healthful of all exercises suited to the female constitution, and is most enjoyable at those aforealluded to portions of the day—morning and twilight—when all nature is smiling and exhilarating. But it is to be feared that like other good things, the habit may become unpopular, because some few will carry it beyond prudence, and run into excess. A woman can best show her grace and skill in managing a horse, by putting him through his easy paces. It does not need that she should become a jockey to ride races in public or on a regular race-track, or run the risk of breaking her neck over fences and ditches in following the hounds, or riding in steeple-chases for wagers. In such sit-

uations, in my opinion, a woman loses all grace and winning attractiveness, in her poor imitation of man and his masculine feats. What is highly commendable in the one, is beneath the purity and dignity of the other. We would rather know, if there was actual need for the risk, that a lady friend could carry her steed safely over a five barred fence, than to see her do it, merely to receive the admiration of a brainless admirer, or to gain the plaudits of the vulgar herd.

Another interesting out-door exercise is becoming fashionable—Archery—which is harmless and perhaps may be termed a female accomplishment. It may in the back woods become useful, in providing a dinner for the family or unexpectedly arrived guests when the larder is empty and game is plenty, by a young girl with her bow and arrows securing a good buck for the entertainment, but beyond such an emergency I cannot see but little utility in the art of archery, tho' I think it quite a pleasant way of passing off time. Pistol shooting and the familiarizing women with the use of fire-arms I have ever thought both proper and highly commendable. On certain occasions which may occur and often do occur when a female is left alone and unprotected, the knowledge of the use and some expertness in the practice of fire-arms might prevent the horrid consequences of a ruffianly visit, and save a woman's honor and a long period of unmitigated woe on the part of friends, tho' the result might be the death of a foul miscreant, who was necessarily put out of the world for the good of the community, by woman's heroism and her knowledge of the use of fire-arms.

Why should not girls, as well as boys, be taught the exercise of deadly weapons and to Swim? To swim is a grand accomplishment for man and should be so considered for a woman. Far better have a girl taught swimming than dancing, so far as utility is concerned in the two accomplishments. Dancing adds grace to the motion of the limbs and so does swimming. The dance lends an enchantment to the motion of the limbs, but the arbitrary rules of fashionable dress restrains that full play of grace in the gestures and motion of the limbs which the unconfined limbs of beauty acquire in the embrace of the yielding waves. That grace of movement and elasticity of motion is gained nowhere so soon, or so easily to be fixed as a habit, as in battling with the waters. A pretty girl after a spell of dancing is a limpid, exhausted, peevish, helpless doll; while, a beauty fresh from a good swim is



bright, highly nerved and bravely energetic, ready for the great battle of life let it come even on the instant. And in these days of constant travel, when all the world is on the move, how useful is the art of swimming to women, and how many lives are lost for the want of a knowledge of that delightful accomplishment.

Walking parties are now the rage in the northern towns and villages, and it would be well to have such little associations everywhere. Nothing adds more to the grace of gait of both man and woman, and to their health, than long, steady practiced walks in company, each one being provided with good water-proof, thick soled, low heeled shoes or boots, which are full large for play of the muscles of the foot without being too large. Walking in the present fashionable shoes is cruel; it is ungainly, awkward, mincing, hopping, and like doing penance with hard peas in the shoes—better go barefoot or not walk at all. The larger portion of parents and guardians in this respect are more heathenish than the Chinese. Every one of them should be indicted and tried by that ultra humanitarian de Berg.

I fear this frank talk will make you call me an old curmudgeon or "foggy," behind the times, but I am sure your "second, sober thoughts," will declare what I have said, if not the words of wisdom, are at least, common sense, honestly expressed—au revoir.

---

### House-keeping.

---

TO THE LADY READERS OF THE "MARYLAND FARMER."

---

As my chat about farming has been kindly received, I will write a chat on house-keeping. I am as old a housekeeper as I am a farmer; my education in each department began when I was quite a tot, and just could trot after old Maum Lidie, in the house, and wander over the field with my father. My father, who was my teacher, my guide, my priest, my companion and friend for forty-four years of my life, (except the five short years of my married life;) how, the tears flow now when I think of his loss! May my last breath be spent as his was, in praise of his Maker. But I forget my subject, it is house-keeping. I am not the typical French woman who can get up a dinner from a set of sheep's feet, or can by much seasoning make the scraps from a company dinner, last the family a month. Indeed, I think, if we should get up meals after the style of French cooks, our men folks would

soon be looking for other places to dine than their homes.

As breakfast begins the day, and coffee is first on the breakfast bill of fare, I will speak of coffee first. Now get ready your rods for I am heterodox on making coffee. I never clear coffee. I take the light browned coffee, ground medium fine, put it in the boiler, and if I have cold liquid coffee I pour it in, mix, and set it on the stove to warm, then pour on boiling water; let the coffee boil until sufficiently cooked, this you can tell by pouring a little in a cup. When ready for the table stir it up well and let it settle, it will be sufficiently clear, without adding anything to clear it. One coffee cup of a good grade of coffee will make five cups of liquid coffee. I never use coffee essence; I think that essence is an abomination almost as bad as a breakfast dish of cracklings and molasses. I read of in a farmer's paper. I stopped that paper.

If you will clear your coffee, a piece of butter will do it and not detract from the flavor of the coffee. Farming people, who are obliged to have early breakfasts, cannot always have light rolls, but they can have light cakes. Buckwheat cakes in the winter, and Graham or other flour cakes in warm weather, made up with buttermilk and soda, and if well beaten will be very light and baked after the manner of buckwheat, and please do have soft boiled eggs for breakfast.—It you have not hens and ducks enough to furnish each member of the family with at least two eggs, raise more hens and ducks, there is plenty of room all out doors. One never tires of eggs, and I believe they add to the health; the strong coffee we drink does not affect the nerves if eggs are eaten for breakfast. After the warm weather sets in we seldom fry meats for breakfast—we broil—ham, whether broiled or fried, should be first spread with nice fresh butter. Cold, boiled meat makes nice broiling dishes for breakfast. Of course every farmer's wife has plenty of butter, the year round, which never looks sticky or soft.

I manage so as to have a few cows fresh about Christmas, and they will give milk ten months in the year. My other cattle that are fresh in the spring, are usually turned dry when my Christmas cows have calves; they winter better than if we continued milking them longer. In speaking of breakfast, I have not taken into consideration the feeding of farm hands. Of late years) I pay board wages to hands, as there are many houses on the plantation they can live in—and so avoid the discomfort of having any hands around the house, except the man who milks, gets fire wood and does jobs generally. I think it best to have small houses to rent to hands, they have to rent, and had as well rent of the person who employs them as elsewhere.

I have not spoken about breakfast for company, as farmer folks who live a distance from the butcher, can't have fresh meat the year round, plenty of chickens can supply the place of butcher's meat, when one has company. I have several breeds of chickens, but I prefer the buff Cochins Chinas. I will conclude my chat for the present, and do beg the lady readers of the MARYLAND FARMER to chat back to me.

Fairfax Co., Va.

LADY FARMER.